



Ministers in 'fantasy land' over moving staff to city – MP

# RETHINK CALL ON TAX JOBS THREAT

Report by Peter Madeley

**MINISTERS** have been accused of living in 'fantasy land' over the impact of closing tax offices in Brierley Hill.

Dudley North MP Ian Austin said the Government had so far given 'no answers' to concerns he raised over proposals to shut HMRC's tax credits office at The Waterfront, with the potential loss of 250 jobs.

Labour MP Mr Austin said the closure would be 'a huge setback' for the Black Country. Ministers said staff could move to the new HMRC Birmingham central office, due to open in 2020.



Ian Austin MP

Mr Austin led a Parliamentary debate on the issue calling on Financial Secretary Mel Stride to 'look again' at the proposals and the timetable.

He said: "I think the minister gave us no answers at all to be quite honest. We want him to look at this properly."

"That idea that people should be travelling from Brierley Hill to central Birmingham and back in the rush hour is complete fantasy land. You'd either need Lewis Hamilton to be driving or have a helicopter."

Last summer civil servants at the Dudley office were told they would be transferred to the Department for Work and Pensions to work on the introduction and implementation of Universal Credit. Then, in October, they were informed they would remain at the Waterfront working on the new benefit.

"Instead, at the end of January it was announced that the Government had changed their mind, that their jobs were at risk and that the office would close," Mr Austin told MPs. "That came as a huge shock to the hard-working, highly skilled and loyal staff."

Conservative MP Mike Wood, whose Dudley South constituency includes the HMRC offices, has urged the Government to give employees 'the certainty that they need'. Mr Stride has agreed to meet with the two Dudley MPs.

## FAREWELL DODDY, HOW TICKLED WE WERE



Sir Ken Dodd pictured with the late Black Country comedian Tommy Mondon during one of his many visits to the Dudley area

ONE of the last of a golden generation of entertainers Ken Dodd leaves us the greatest gift he possessed... happiness.

He came from Liverpool but the people of the Black Country took him to their hearts like one of their own as he clocked up hundreds of hours, and thousands of laughs, on stages across the region over the years.

More than 60 years after first performing, Sir Ken – known to most as Doddy – was still drawing a crowd at the grand age of 90 with

many hoping to see him at the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton this Sunday before news of his death came after a short illness.

Comedian and actor Josie Lawrence, from Old Hill, said: "I took mom and dad to see An Audience With Ken Dodd and still have the tape of that great night. You can see my dad on it – he's laughing, really laughing, and it's one of my most prized possessions. So thank you for that and for your genius".

Malcolm Palmer from the Stourbridge

branch of the George Formby Society, of which Dodd was a member, said: "I've met Ken on numerous time and he was always very supportive of the campaign to reopen the (Dudley) Hippodrome."

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Dave Tyler said: "Sir Ken Dodd always said he loved coming to Dudley. Packed houses, genuine comedy and love from his fans in Dudley. Farewell friend."

● Remembering Doddy – see page 3

### COUNCIL

## Borough to take in 20 refugee families

A COMPANY is being offered up to £350,000 by Dudley Council to help resettle Syrian refugees in the borough.

Dudley Council has committed to take in 20 families left homeless by the civil war that has been raging in Syria over five years. So far it has taken in six families.

The local authority is looking for a firm to support housing and integrating the refugees. It has put a four-year contract out to tender, valued between £100,000 and £350,000. Councils receive £8,520 per refugee from the Government plus £4,500 to provide education for every child.

### POLICE

## Rise in violence and sex crimes

MORE than 150 violent and sexual offences were reported across Dudley in January, new figures have revealed.

A total of 164 attacks were reported across the borough compared to the same month in 2016 – which saw 115.

The increase has prompted calls for more community police officers on the streets. Dudley councillor Susan Ridney said she believed cuts to the police were partly to blame for the rise.

### CONSTRUCTION

## Dozens of Carillion jobs go at hospital

MORE than two dozen Carillion workers are being axed at the Midland Metropolitan Hospital site as rumours swirl that a Swedish construction firm is being lined up to take over building work.

Nearly two years behind schedule, the scheme in Smethwick has been at a standstill since Wolverhampton-based Carillion crashed in January.

● £6.4m on consultants – page 11

### INSIDE

## MODERN RAIL IS ON TRACK



PAGE 2

# Wombourne Windows

ORANGERIES AND CONSERVATORIES

After 36 years of trading, there really is no one else in the frame

[www.wombourne-windows.co.uk](http://www.wombourne-windows.co.uk)

See our full page advertisement on page 10

CONTENTS	
PETER RHODES	6
LETTERS	7
MEMORY LANE	14
CLUBS	18
LIFESTYLE	20
THE TICKET	23
MOTORING	31-34
SPORT	39-40
CONTACT US	

EDITORIAL:  
Tel: 01384 353201/01384 353205  
E-mail: dudley.chron@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:  
Tel: 01902 319453  
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk  
PHOTOGRAPHIC: Tel: 01902 319430  
E-mail: picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk

ADVERTISING: Sue Jones  
Tel: 01384 399901  
E-mail: sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Colin Bailey  
Tel: 01902 313131 ext 3731  
E-mail: colin.bailey@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Liz Barratt  
Tel: 01384 353244  
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:  
Tel: 01902 317878  
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones  
Tel: 01902 319990  
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

Stourbridge  
**CHRONICLE**

51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES  
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm  
[www.yourchronicle.com](http://www.yourchronicle.com)

DON'T MISS YOUR  
**Express & Star**

EVERY DAY  
ON THE  
BALL  
All your  
latest  
sports  
updates

EVERY SATURDAY  
**NIGEL HASTILOW**  
He always  
tackles the  
hot topics  
head-on

# Brierley Hill-Stourbridge link proposed



Site of planned tram stop

A RAILWAY or tram line extension is being considered by transport bosses as they begin to look beyond the completion of the Wednesbury to Brierley Hill Midland Metro route.

Work has started to clear the 11km-route from Cottage Street in Brierley Hill to Great Western Street in Wednesbury as part of the planned extension, which will go along seven kilometres (just under four and a half miles) of disused railway line. It is scheduled to be completed by 2023.

Dudley South MP Mike Wood said work was also being done on plans for a

transport line extension to Stourbridge, either extending the Midland Metro tram line or laying down a new railway line.

He said: "There is planning taking place on how we can continue the tram or railway line to Stourbridge from Dudley.

## Network

"It would mean people from Dudley could join the main rail network at two different locations."

The Wednesbury to Brierley Hill link to the railway network would be at

Dudley Port main line station, near to Tipton.

The new Metro route will also go from Brierley Hill to Merry Hill shopping centre, Dudley town centre and Great Bridge. Trams would run every six minutes at peak times.

Stourbridge Line User Group member Don Barton has backed the plans for the line linking Stourbridge and Brierley Hill but said he would prefer it to be a railway line rather than tram. He added: "Any line extension would be good news for the area, improving the transport network and reducing congestion."

# Light at the end of tunnel for rail dream

**'I'M not here on a whim – I'm here because I genuinely believe we have got to do this'**

Transport Secretary Chris Grayling wants to give the Black Country's transport system lift-off with his backing for three major schemes.

In a whistle-tour of the region, Mr Grayling first arrived at the future site of Willenhall Railway Station, to be built as part of the reopening of passenger services between Wolverhampton and Walsall.

He then made the four-mile journey to Midland Metro's Wednesbury depot where he drove a new battery-powered tram, which will operate without overhead lines in Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

Finally, he headed to Brierley Hill town centre where he inspected the site of a planned terminus for trams on the planned Wednesbury to Dudley Midland Metro extension.

## Opportunity

At Brierley Hill, in Cottage Street near to the Asda supermarket, Mr Grayling and West Midlands Mayor Andy Street was joined by Dudley South MP Mike Wood and Dudley Council leader Patrick Harley.

It is where the Wednesbury to Dudley line, which follows a disused

railway line for most of the way, will end. There will be a total of 17 stations along the route, which will initially end at Merry Hill shopping centre in 2022. A £250m grant from the Government last year made the 11km-route a reality.

Mr Wood said: "The Government has given us the money and now we are working hard to clear the line and open up the route – in a few years it will give Dudley and Brierley Hill a passenger rail service for the first



Secretary of State for Transport Chris Grayling gets into the driving seat of a new battery-powered tram

time in decades." The passenger railway service from Dudley closed in 1964.

Mr Grayling said: "We are absolutely committed as a government and we have a great partnership with Andy Street in the West Midlands to deliver the right kind of transport system for the future.

"This Metro network is absolutely what the Birmingham and West Midlands needs, it's a real opportunity to improve connections and to do so in a

way which is quicker and easier than building new railway lines.

At Midland Metro's Wednesbury depot, Mr Grayling got in the driver's seat of a battery-powered tram. It does not require overhead lines and is the first of its type in the country. The tram is still being tested and is to come into use when the Wolverhampton Metro extension to the city's railway station opens in two years' time.

Mr Grayling said: "This is the first step to a technological revolution."

The lithium batteries in the tram are charged up by overhead lines before being able to power the vehicle without maintaining contact with overhead cables. The batteries were fitted in Spain and will be used on the entire Metro fleet, at a cost of £15.5m.

The Metro will be cable free through Victoria Square to Centenary Square in Birmingham city centre. The use of battery trams is also being considered for the Wednesbury to Brierley Hill route.

# Jail for man armed with air rifle in the street

A 26-YEAR-OLD man who terrified a stranger in a Dudley street by brandishing an air rifle covered with a bin bag has been locked up for 12 months.

A judge heard that Kyi Smith from Washington Court, Hillside Road, Dudley, was allegedly wearing camouflage clothing.

An alarmed woman feared the worst when she saw him near Eagle Close, on September 24 last year, and alerted police who traced and arrested him within 20 minutes.

He had bought the £175 air rifle earlier that day and it was still wrapped up when the officers arrived, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The defendant had been jailed for five and a half years in April 2013 for possession of a revolver which was found under a setttee at his home during an earlier police raid. This conviction banned him from having guns, including the potentially lethal high powered air rifle he had just bought, after being freed from the jail early on licence.

Smith maintained he had not been told this and Mr Charles Hamer, prosecuting, conceded it was not included in the paperwork given to the defendant on release.

## Certificate

Mr Oliver Woolhouse, defending, declared: "If the air rifle needed a firearms certificate it may have been obvious that he would be prohibited from owning one. It would be less obvious when the gun is freely on sale to those over the age of 18.

"In any event the air rifle just fell on the wrong side of the threshold which has to be crossed by a gun to be categorised as among weapons covered by the prohibition order."

Smith fadmitted having a firearm when prohibited from doing so. He was jailed for 12 months.

Judge Dean Kershaw told him: "I cannot conclude that this was blatant abuse because it is unlikely you would have been told you could not possess such a gun and this lowers your blameworthiness. But this was stupid behaviour. You were showing off, displaying some sort of bravado and the witness who saw you was very frightened. She did not realise it was an air gun."

# Choir and students in church concert

KINGSWINFORD Choral Society will join students from The Elgar School of Music in Worcester and Elmfield School in Stourbridge to perform a joint concert at St James's Church in Stourbridge on Saturday at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 on the door, under-18s go free.

**Able & Bromley Carpets / Beds** Family Run Est since 1978

**SOFAS, VINYLs LAMINATES, STAIRLIFTS**

**WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T.**  
Help move heavy furniture, up lift plus take away old carpets, Plus Shave doors

**DISABLED? OAP? CAN'T GET OUT?**  
or anyone who just needs extra help!  
**Can't come to us, we'll come to YOU**  
We will bring 100s of carpet samples sofa and bed brochures to your door

Double divan bed, free headboard, 2 free drawers Was £699  
**Now £399**

Heavy Domestic Saxony from **£7.50** sq yd was £14.99

3 Seater Sofa Only **£399**

Divan beds and mattresses from only **£72.00**

Carpets from only **£3.50** sq yd

**UP TO 50% OFF** PLUS FREE FITTING (on selected carpets T&C's apply) 100's of rolls and end of rolls in store at knockdown prices WE WILL BEAT YOUR BIG SUPERSTORE

Click on-line for many great prices - Check out our video and 5 star reviews on [www.ablecarpets.co.uk](http://www.ablecarpets.co.uk)

Free quotes and Planning Warehouse Unit, D Dormston Trading Est., Burton Road, Gornal DY1 3TD  
**OPEN: MON-SAT 9.30-5.00 SUNDAY 10AM-3PM**

Quarry Bank  
Lye  
Wollscote  
Kinver

Stourbridge  
Pedmore  
Brierley Hill  
Wordsley

**Adrian Bromley**  
**01902 880541**

**FREEPHONE 0800 0853747** WE COVER ALL AREAS

**Luxe Tan & Beauty** Modern Luxurious Salon Offering High Quality Treatments

**20% off sunbeds for two weeks** T & C's apply

Skincare Experts, Anti Wrinkle Injections, Dermal Fillers FREE Consultations  
LVL Lashes, HD Brows, Gelish Manicures, Pedicures

**OFFER £45.00 for a month**  
Unlimited Tanning (15 mins session max)  
Sunfit Colla Tan XXL  
The only sunbeds in the area that have tan and collagen tube in one

56A South Road, Norton, Stourbridge DY8 3YB  
01384 671760

**Footworks Chiropody**  
*Keeping you one step ahead...*

- Ingrown Toe Nails Treated
- Toe Nail Cutting and Trimming
- Diabetic Foot Care
- General Foot Care
- Callus Reduction

**HCPC Registered & Foot Healthcare Practitioners**

**Home Visits Available**

**01384 413444**  
201 - 203 Halesowen Road, Old Hill, B64 6HE

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Petition against bus route changes

A PETITION is being launched to get a bus service's old route reinstated after a section in Brockmoor was axed. The 228 service was withdrawn from Wallows Road in Brockmoor by Hants Bus Company in April last year. The service, which runs from Kinner to Brierley Hill, stopped using Wallows Road when it was extended to Russells Hall Hospital. Residents instead have to use a stop in Pensnett Road, which means a steep walk.

Brockmoor and Pensnett councillors are set to launch a petition and present it to Transport For West Midlands. Diamond Bus now operates the route.

### Video chase driver hands himself in

A TEENAGER suspected of speeding away from officers in a stolen car has been arrested after handing himself in at a police station.

The 18-year-old was arrested on Friday on suspicion of car theft and failing to stop following the pursuit in Dudley last Wednesday. The chase started in Selbourne Road, Dixons Green, when officers spotted a Ford Fiesta believed to using false plates.

Enquiries are on-going to trace another man, a passenger in the car, who is understood to have posted a video of the chase on social media.

### Further charge in flat killing case

ANOTHER teenager has been charged over the murder of Jaskaran Kang in Dudley.

The 17 year-old, from Dudley, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was arrested on Thursday morning and remanded in custody to appear before Dudley Magistrates Court.

Mr Kang, aged 24, from Handsworth, was found fatally stabbed at a flat in Stourbridge Road, Dudley, on January 6. Four other men, aged 17 to 20, have already been charged with murder and another with conspiracy to commit robbery.

### Private garden opens in aid of Wings charity

ASHWOOD Nurseries owner John Massey is opening his private garden near Kingswinford in aid charity on Saturday.

The garden open day at the nurseries in Ashwood Lower Lane and will be held in aid of Wombourne Special Needs Support Group (Wings).

The event, from 10am to 4pm, offers the chance to see a spectacular early spring show. Admission costs £5 (cash only).

## College under fire over decision to scrap A-levels

STOURBRIDGE college has been urged to re-think a decision to scrap A-levels from September.

Stourbridge College's decision has been criticised with parents now left with just weeks to make other arrangements for children who planned to study A-levels at the college. A councillor in Stourbridge called the move to axe A-levels at one of the region's major colleges 'disappointing' and said bosses should reconsider.

The college, which is run by the Birmingham Metropolitan College (BMet) and caters for hundreds of students across the Black Country, announced last week that A-levels were to be phased out as part of a shift towards more vocational courses.

Current A-level students will be able to complete their courses.

Stourbridge councillor Nicolas Barlow said: "I can't understand the reasoning behind it. It is a bit disappointing they have taken this decision. They need to have a look and have a re-think about the impact it will have on various schools that feed into the Stourbridge area. It is a bit ill-thought and perhaps a bit ill-thought through."

Gill Coldicott, head of Stourbridge College, said: "Every prospective student who has applied to start A-levels in September has been notified of the decision and offered access to advice and guidance and information on alternative courses at BMet."

### Late night concern of elderly patients

ALMOST 1,800 pensioners across the Black Country were discharged from hospital overnight - with many left to make their own way home during the hours of darkness.

The figures show that the practice, criticised by a former NHS England boss, continues despite fears it could be dangerous for vulnerable elderly people.

A substantial number of those patients were aged 85 or older.

The numbers cover patients aged 65 or above who were discharged from medical wards between the hours of 10pm and 6am.

In April 2012, Professor Sir Bruce Keogh, then NHS England medical director, called on hospitals to cut down on overnight discharges following a series of cases where vulnerable patients had been left stranded.

Four years ago the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee said discharges between 11pm and 6am had led to deaths.

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust released 430 pensioners in the middle of the night, among them 111 aged over 85.

## £24m scheme to update leisure centres

A £24 million vision for the future of leisure centres in Dudley has been revealed. The borough's three centres will feature state-of-the-art facilities following major investment.

Details of the plans have emerged, which will see a new leisure centre built on Flood Street, Dudley, to replace the current building on Wellington Road, and sites at Stourbridge and Halesowen refurbished.

The centres in Dudley and Halesowen would both be fitted with 25-metre pools.

Bosses have now confirmed the new Dudley leisure centre, hailed by council chiefs as a facility 'fit for the 21st century', will be built on the Flood Street car park as part of plans to regenerate that part of the town.

It will be named in honour of Dudley-born Manchester United and England football legend Duncan Edwards.

Under current plans, it will include a 25-metre, eight-lane pool and smaller learning pool. There will also be a five-court sports hall, a gym, two studios, a viewing area and cafe.

The Wellington Road facility would be bulldozed and the site sold off for development.

### Refurbished

Existing centres in Stourbridge and Halesowen, which have become run-down and dated, will undergo major overhauls.

The pool at Stourbridge will be refurbished and

there will be new changing rooms. At Halesowen, the existing 33-yard pool will be converted into a 25-metre, eight-lane pool. The gym will also be extended.

Regeneration boss Councillor Ian Kettle said: "We are delighted with the upgrade of our facilities, which will meet the public's aspiration and needs."

"We have made great progress and things are looking good for the future."

He added: "These facilities are part of our healthy vision for the borough as we do need to get more people active."

Work on the Dudley and Stourbridge centres is expected to start in April 2019 and at Halesowen a year later.

## Crackdown launched on litterbugs and dog mess

### A ZERO-TOLERANCE squad is set to pound the streets of Dudley in a blitz on litter louts and dog fouling.

The council has employed Kingdom Enforcement Services, including ex-police and military personnel armed with body cameras, to take on responsibility for patrolling the streets, parks and open spaces across the borough in a year-long trial.

The initiative is expected to see a significant increase in the number of fixed penalty notices (FPNs) for those who drop litter or fail to pick up after their pets.

The move will not cost the council, with Kingdom receiving payment directly as a percentage of the financial penalties issued.

The local authority will still retain a percentage of the income from the fixed penalty notices.

### Officers

The company will initially have five officers on the beat plus one team leader overseeing operations. It already works with more than 30 local authorities across the country, including Wolverhampton City Council.

More than 9,000 FPNs were issued in Wolverhampton in 2016 after the firm were brought in by the local authority. Comparative figures show just 25 were handed out from April 2014 to March 2015, before the firm took over.

New litter police in Walsall last year reported handing out 250 fines worth a potential £20,000 in just under six months in the battle to clean up the borough after council chiefs employed private enforcement firm 3GS. Sandwell Council fined just 10 people for dropping litter in 2015/2016.

Councillor Karen Shakespeare, cabinet member for Dudley's environmental services, said: "We will have more enforcement people on the streets, which councillors and residents are lobbying for daily."

"The officers will be highly visible and with the increased number of fixed penalty notices being handed out this can only lead to cleaner streets, which is what we all want."

### Dudley venue was special for Doddy



Ken Dodd pictured with fellow top turns helping to cut the birthday cake at Dudley Hippodrome in 1957

DUDLEY Hippodrome was one of the late Sir Ken Dodd's favourite venues.

The now boarded-up venue on Castle Hill was a stage for Dodd on numerous occasions, including the comedian's debut year in 1954. He returned in 1957, by then already a star, to mark the venue's birthday by cutting the

cake. He went on to perform at all the major venues in the Black Country and Birmingham.

Two years ago he offered to perform for free to help raise funds for the proposed revamp of the building. Now there will be no benefit concert and the venue's future looks bleak after Dudley Council took back the lease, say-

ing campaigners could not attain their targets to save the venue.

Sir Lenny Henry tweeted: "I first saw Doddy in 1975 at the Blackpool Opera house. Comedians all over the shop hiding pens and pads. He ravaged us with gags, one after the other. After an hour and a half he paused, looked at us and said 'd'you give in?'"

**DON'T throw out costly cabinets when you can re-use them!**  
**We Can Replace the Doors**

**Doors & More**  
Opening Times  
Monday to Friday  
10am - 5.30pm  
Saturday 10 - 4pm  
Closed Sunday

01384  
293654

## Modernise Your Kitchen

Lets make it happen this year - with the No.1 made to measure experts



Ask for  
your  
Brochure

**Buy 2 Get 1 Free**

**0800 088 7044**

**www.iudk.co.uk.**

Next to Sainsburys - Wordsley Green Stourbridge

**“My kitchen now looks brilliant!”**

Ms Fletcher  
STOURBRIDGE

**Over 40 Styles & Colours**

**Add Value to your home with our amazing concept**

# COUNTY NEWS

## Caution urged on fire service plan

UKIP has urged caution over plans by the West Midlands super council to take over the region's fire service. West Midlands Mayor Andy Street would have sole accountability for the governance of the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service in the scheme. But Ukip Euro MP James Carver said: "If this change goes ahead the Mayor will be responsible for the community safety plan, budgeting, setting the fire council tax precept and appointing the chief fire officer, who in turn, would be directly accountable to the Mayor. I fear there could be a democratic deficit and we need assurances this committee will have some powers of veto."

## Elf movie comes to stage in Brum

DAVID Essex, Martine McCutcheon and Tam Ryan will star in Elf: A Christmas Spectacular, a show based on the popular Hollywood festive comedy movie.

The musical is coming to Birmingham's Genting Arena in December.

Veteran pop singer and actor Essex will star as Buddy the Elf's father and will be joined by pop star McCutcheon as Buddy's girlfriend Jovie, and Coronation Street's Ryan as Buddy.

The cast will also include children from Birmingham stage school Pauline Quirke Academy.

## Two charged over biker 'nuisance'

TWO men from the Black Country are among 10 charged for a 'reckless' bike ride that caused chaos on West Midlands' roads.

Jermaine Saa, 27, of Marksbury Close in Wolverhampton and Ryan Pointon, 26, from Oak Road in Oldbury have been charged with causing public nuisance back in June 2016.

They have both pleaded not guilty to the charges and will appear at Birmingham Crown Court for trial on April 5. They appeared at Birmingham Magistrates' Court last week where they made their plea.

## Hundreds in dungeon at Nightmare Live

NEARLY 300 people packed into Brierley Hill Civic Hall to take a trip down memory lane in the shape of a stage adaptation of cult kids 'TV show Nightmare.

Nightmare Live was an affectionate parody of the 1980s-90s fantasy show which enthralled many. There were puzzles, riddles, sword-wielding knights, goblins and even a full-size talking dragon - every twist and turn lapped up by a crowd of young and old.

# Take a peaky at this booming business



Chris Sadler, right, and sales director Ian King toast the success of Sadler's

A GROWING Black Country brewery and pub chain is opening its first bar in Birmingham.

Lye-based Sadler's Ales is creating up to eight jobs at the Sadler's Tap Room in Hagley Road West, Quinton. Sadler's managing director Chris Sadler said that the former shop premises were being refurbished ready for opening this spring.

The new bar will offer a full range of the beers produced at the company's brewery on Conyers Trading Estate in Station Drive and will offer burgers and street food. "We just re-

ceived the keys. We are delighted to be bringing Sadler's in to Birmingham," said Mr Sadler.

It follows the recent opening of a Sadler's Peaky Blinder bar at the Genting Arena, NEC, which will be open for major concerts selling Sadler's Peaky Blinders beers. "It will open for concerts that attract a more adult audience," said Mr Sadler.

"By the end of the year we should have two more open following on from Quinton," he added.

The business dates from 1900 and also has The Windsor Castle pub in

Lye, Sadler's Brewhouse and Bar above the brewery, plus a pub and restaurant in Southampton.

An extension to the brewery, which will see production quadrupled, is nearly complete.

Sadler's Ales, which also produces Peaky Blinders gin, whiskey and rum, has also won a distribution deal in Romania. The company has also been praised by Minister of State for Trade and Export Promotion Baroness Fairhead, who said: "Sadler's Ales are a great example of a local business which is seizing global opportunities."

# Concern at homes plan near to chemical plant

## PLANS to build dozens of homes near a chemical plant which deals with highly flammable goods have been criticised.

There are proposals for 61 homes - including 36 houses and 25 apartments - at the former site of vehicle repair business Bodykraft in Brierley Hill.

Developer Westleigh Homes submitted the application to build the estate at the junction of Canal Street and Dudley Road. It would be close to the Hammond Chemicals factory, which stores, processes, packs and distributes hazardous industrial solvent.

Councillor Christine Perks, who represents the area, said the proposals had been rejected by Dudley Council's planning committee previously but new plans had been put forward.

"My thoughts are the same as they were before," she said. "I don't think building homes there is an ideal place next to a chemical factory."

### Rejected

"I know we've got new build houses in some funny places but next to a chemical factory - it does worry you. It's frightening to think if an accident would happen. The application went to planning some time ago and it was rejected."

Plans for 57 homes on the site were rejected by the planning committee in September last year, despite it being recommended for approval by planning officers. The developers submitted an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate following its refusal and a decision is currently pending.

Hammonds Chemicals, which has been based on the site for 45 years and employs 30 people, has urged the council to reject the scheme. The firm says it believes the development 'will adversely prejudice the ongoing operation' of its business."

A spokesman for Westleigh said: "We have been working closely with the relevant authorities and have taken the necessary steps to help mitigate any concerns surrounding the complexities of the site. Health and safety is always our number one priority."

## On song for The Voice talent scouts



Michelle Williams from Stourbridge was a contender at The Voice audition for Black Country singers

THEY gave it their all as hopefuls flocked to an audition proving the Black Country has most certainly got a voice.

Hopefuls flocked to The Cuban Exchange in Wolverhampton last week in a bid to impress talent scouts from ITV's The Voice at an open mic night.

A total of 17 acts performed in a bid to secure a spot at the next audition stage.

One of the many to take to the stage was David Evans, 20, from Wombourne, whose sister Katie, 19, also performed.

The Stourbridge College music performance student gave his all

in a performance of Alex Clare's Too Close.

He said: "It started off when we used to go on holidays and do karaoke in bars. The people that are on The Voice like Tom Jones is a massive iconic figure for me. A lot of the old golden artists they are a massive inspiration for me."

# Teenager launched 'sickening' street attack

A 16-YEAR-OLD youth who launched a brutal attack on another young man when two rival gangs clashed in the early hours of the morning in Stourbridge has been locked up for two-and-a-half years.

The victim was punched and kicked and the beating continued as he lay unconscious in the street. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

He suffered a fractured cheek bone, broken tooth, fractures of the nose and knuckle together with haemorrhaging to an eye.

The injured party and his friends were heading for a Stourbridge nightclub on January 7 last year celebrating the fact his partner was expecting their first child, explained Mr Nicholas Tatlow, prosecuting.

After leaving the taxi they were confronted in the town centre by another group which included the defendant, from Halesowen, and another man who both targeted the victim.

The attackers wrongly believed the group had been involved in an earlier incident in which one of their friends had been hurt.

The youth pleaded guilty to causing grievous bodily harm with intent and was ordered to be detained in a Young Offenders Institution.

Judge Michael Challinor told him: "This was a sustained and sickening assault."

## Man convicted of pub row murder

A GRANDFATHER who stabbed a man to death in a dispute over a game of pool has been convicted of murder.

After deliberating for eight hours, the jury returned a unanimous guilty verdict on Lyndon Smith who knifed 20-year-old John Joyce in the street in Bilston after being called 'a fool' in a pub row.

The victim's family, who had travelled from Ireland for the two-week trial, wept as the verdict was announced.

Smith, 47, stabbed Mr Joyce four times with a kitchen knife after confronting members of his party who he had earlier been playing pool with him at the Market Tavern on August 17.

Some banter over the rules led Smith, who had drank up to 10 pints of lager, to walk out.

He drove to his home less than a mile away, where it is believed he got the knife, and then returned to the pub, where he began his search for the men before confronting them in the street.

Father-of-four Smith, of Owen Road, Bilston, had denied all charges. He is due to be sentenced today (Thursday).

## BRADLEY ELECTRICAL & MAINTENANCE

Est 1987

All electrical work undertaken  
Fully qualified & insured  
Installation Condition Reports  
No job too small  
★ FREE ESTIMATES ★

Electrical Safety Register

Call Paul 01384 344589 or 07812 435833  
www.bradleyelectrical.net

Before

After

Est. 1973

## Wollaston Bathrooms Ltd

Fully Fitted Bathrooms  
From £3000 inc VAT  
900mm x 900mm Quadrant Tray and Shower  
Valve W.C. Basin and Pedestal with Tap,  
18 Sqm Wall Tiles + 3 Sqm Floor Tiles!

**DISABILITY ADAPPTIONS**  
"Adapting your bathroom for you."  
A wide range of bath and showering options are available, all designed to make bathing and showering easier and safer for you.  
"Save" you may be entitled to zero rated VAT

Visit our showroom

FREE No Obligation Survey and Quotation  
Supply Only Service Available  
Trade enquiries welcome

9 High Street Wollaston DY8 4NH  
Tel: 01384 374237 or 0800 1582456  
email: enquiries@wollastonbathrooms.ltd.uk  
www.wollastonbathrooms.ltd.uk

Open:  
Monday-Friday 8.00am-5.00pm  
Saturday 9.00am-4.00pm

## Halesowen Fireplaces

AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME

### Complete Fireplace Packages from £499

(including fire)

360° VIRTUAL TOUR NOW ON WEBSITE

For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds visit our showroom (opposite Tyre City on Long Lane)

Telephone 0121 559 9985

Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate, Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD  
www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk

## GASWAY

Est 1976

Open since 1976 Gasway has been your first choice for Gas Fires, Surrounds, Cookers and much more, all at competitive prices.

Why not visit Dave, Jon and the team today for FREE expert advice and quotes.

- Cookers Supplied and Fitted
- Gas Fires and Fire Surrounds
- Electric Fires and Fire suites
- Servicing Spare Parts
- Central Heating Systems Supplied and Fitted
- Fire Guards / Companion Sets
- All at competitive Prices

Free standing gas stoves  
Natural gas or lpg  
Can be fitted into class 1, class 2 and pre cast flues  
Flue and venting options  
Manual control with integral ignition  
Log fuel bed  
Up to 78% efficient  
3.6k output

For complete peace of mind and a friendly service, why not visit Gasway in Lower High Street, Stourbridge DY8 1TA. 01384 372246

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Easter egg hunt at hospice base

A CHARITY Easter egg hunt will see children searching for more than 500 chocolate eggs.

The Mary Stevens Hospice hosts the Easter egg challenge at their Hagley Road HQ in Stourbridge as part of their annual fundraising event.

Hospice bosses are expecting a record number of eggs to be found on the day with donkey rides and an Easter market also taking place.

The event is free to attend with registration for the egg hunt at £5 per child. Doors open at 10.30am on March 31. To register visit [www.marystevenshospice.co.uk/event/easter-egg-hunt-2018](http://www.marystevenshospice.co.uk/event/easter-egg-hunt-2018) online.

### MP hosting free fair for the elderly

DUDLEY South MP Mike Wood is hosting his third fair for older people tomorrow (Friday).

The free admission Older People's Information Fair is at Wordsley Community Centre, Wordsley Green, from 10am to 1pm. Among organisations due to attend the Conservative MP's event are Age UK, Beacon Centre for the Blind, Citizen's Advice Bureau, Severn Trent Water, Dudley Home Improvement Services, Dudley Winter Warmth Service, National Express, University of the Third Age and Maggie's Laughter Yoga.

### Homes designed for the disabled

DEVELOPERS will soon start work on bringing an innovative new housing development of 18 apartments and two bungalows for disabled adults to life in the Black Country.

The new development on Shrubbery Avenue in Tipton has been specially designed for people with physical and learning disabilities. It is one of a number of schemes being delivered in the West Midlands by HBV, the specialist supported living developers. HBV is working with Sandwell Council and aims to have residents living in the development by 2019.

### Dusty tribute is a 60s special at civic hall

DUSTY Springfield and other female stars from the golden age of pop music will be celebrated in a show at Brierley Hill Civic Hall tonight (Thursday).

The show, Dusty and the Shades of the 60s, is a tribute to the life of the London-born soul singer whose hits included I Only Want To Be With You and Son of a Preacher Man.

Tickets cost £17 (concessions £15). See [www.bhillcivic.co.uk/whats-on/live-music-website](http://www.bhillcivic.co.uk/whats-on/live-music-website).

## Metro Mayor stepping up Channel 4 campaign

CAMPAIGN work to encourage Channel 4 to set up a 'national headquarters' in the region is being stepped up.

It comes after the broadcaster confirmed it was to find a location outside London for the HQ. Two creative hubs for the channel will also be opened, although its London headquarters will remain.

Brierley Hill is among Coventry, Solihull and Birmingham on a list of four West Midlands locations to be considered by the broadcaster. The move will see 300 staff move out of London.

West Midlands Mayor Andy Street is championing the Midlands campaign. He said: "I want to reflect on the energy that has gone into the social media campaign to persuade the Channel 4 board and indeed the Government that the West Midlands should be the new home for this iconic broadcaster."

"It's been brilliant to see the energy, the way the youth, the diversity, the story of the West Midlands has really got behind the campaign.

"We've told them that a digital broadcaster really should be based in the West Midlands. Let's make sure that we really win this case.

Culture Secretary Matt Hancock said: "I'm delighted Channel 4 have decided, under the strong new leadership of Alex Mahon, to establish the new national HQ outside of London."

## Toys R Us start to close stores

TOYS R Us stores are to begin closing this week as hopes fade for finding a buyer for the stricken business, which employs more than 3,000.

The toy chain, which includes stores at Oldbury and at the Merry Hill shopping centre, appointed Moorfields Advisory to oversee administration at the end of February after the firm failed to find a rescuer.

Moorfields said it would begin an 'orderly wind-down' of stores and it is now understood that the insolvency specialist is poised to close the first batch as it runs down stock. Hundreds of jobs are set to be lost. It is thought Moorfields will begin with the closure of at least 26 loss-making stores earmarked late last year, including Tamworth and Shrewsbury.

## No cull says trust

STAFFORDSHIRE Wildlife Trust has vowed that it will not give permission for any badger culling at the 27 nature reserve sites it runs in Staffordshire including Highgate Common, near Kingswinford

## Trainee GP cleared of patient assaults



Amirul Haque – acquitted

A TRAINEE GP has been cleared of sexually assaulting five patients in 10 days during a temporary posting at a Black Country surgery.

Amirul Haque was only a few weeks into a four-month placement at the Dudley practice when the allegations were made and police alerted, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told.

The 33-year-old said: "I am relieved by the verdict, and thankful to my family and friends for their continued support. I look forward to rebuilding my life and the opportunity of returning to practice in the future."

He was accused of thrusting his groin into the back of patients and unnecessarily placing his hands inside underwear and exposing breasts during consultations.

But the doctor suggested there may have been collusion between the five women and their complaints had not been made independently of each other. A post referring to the doctor's alleged behaviour had been put on Facebook before any patient had made an official complaint, the jury were told.

The defence suggested it would be reasonable to infer there may have

been collusion between some or all of the women.

Judge Amjad Nawaz told the jury that to convict they had to be sure that each complainant was acting independently without their evidence being 'contaminated' by that of any others.

The defendant was nearing the end of his formal training following five years at medical school when he arrived at the Dudley practice.

The jury acquitted Dr Haque, from Ladypool Road, Balsall Common, of five charges of sexual assault.

Costs will be paid out of public funds.

# Action group to tackle off-road biker menace

## AN action group will be set up in a bid to tackle the scourge of off-road bikers at a nature reserve.

Fed-up residents are to form a friends group over rising concerns about nuisance bikers at Fens Pools Nature Reserve in Pensnett.

Police and council bosses have been urged to take action to try and put a stop to youths riding around the beauty spot.

Dozens attended a meeting with councillors and police officers last week to discuss the problem. They heard that members of the Friends of the Fens Pools group will patrol the area and report any concerns to police.

There has been an increased police presence at the nature reserve in recent weeks amid rising concerns from walkers and nearby residents.

The group will be backed by local councillors who have agreed to provide funding through a community forum, which supports initiatives in their area.

### Supported

The nature reserve, which features the Fens Pool and Middle Pool lakes, is popular with families and dog walkers and there are fears continued use of the area by off-road bikers will lead to people staying away.

Ward councillor Judy Foster, the former deputy leader of Dudley Council, said: "There is going to be a friends group set up which will be supported financially, initially, by a small grant councillors can allocate through the community forum.

"It will be community led and supported by ward councillors. I think this is the way forward. I'm really grateful to the community for showing their concerns."

Councillor Foster believes more action is needed from the council and police.

She added: "Police have issued a number of notices on nature reserves but there is still a lot more they need to do. It is a challenge for police, having lost over 2,000 officers, and budget cuts. Calls to the nature reserve are competing with higher level calls on burglaries and thefts. It is never high on the priority list."

## Say cheese if you're enjoying festival



Cheese fan Stevie Fellows ready to take on a chunk of Stilton 'the King of Cheeses' at the festival

THE crowds were going crackers for a festival dedicated to all things cheese.

Cheese Fest attracted 1,700 people at Starworks Warehouse in Wolverhampton at the weekend.

From traditional cheeses to mac and cheese, halloumi fries and mozzarella sticks, visitors were

able to learn about all types of the dairy delight, as well as the best wines and beers to accompany it.

Organiser Ashley Ramian said: "If Wolverhampton is as good as it looks – which it is at the moment – then we will be coming back next year. People just love melted cheese. We wanted to

design something where people could come and have a drink. We wanted something different to the usual farmers' market."

Coronation Street star turned cheesemaker Sean Wilson was at the event, delighting the audience with gourmet tips. The 52-year-old plays Martin Platt in the soap.

ADVERTISEMENT

# Has Your Double Glazing Steamed Up?

Established for over a decade Cloudy2Clear windows have become a leading company for glass replacement. Issues with double glazing can often be gradual and may only be noticed during a clear sunny day or during the winter. A failed glass unit may no longer provide you with the protection you need or be energy efficient. Why not spend a few minutes checking your home to see if you have any

failed double glazing? If you act now you can avoid these problems.

Now, you may think you need to replace the whole window including the frames and all the hardware, however Cloudy2Clear have come up with a simple and cost saving solution... Just replace the glass!!

If you see condensation in your windows just visit our website or give us a call on 0800 61 21 118. We will send out our highly

experienced engineers for a free no obligation quote. A Cloudy2Clear quote takes on average no longer than 20 minutes. Once the quote is completed, we will sit down with you and explain the problem and tell you how we can fix it. With years of experience Cloudy2Clear have a wealth of knowledge and are recognised as a Which Trusted Trader, plus our work is backed

by an industry leading 25 year guarantee. Cloudy2Clear also replace faulty locks handles and hinges on all windows and doors.

Your friendly local Cloudy2Clear specialist is Brian Stanley and he services Stourbridge & the surrounding areas.

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on 0800 61 21 118.



## Cloudy2Clear Windows... Service With A Smile!

Cloudy2Clear Are A...

Which? Trusted Trader

All Glazing Backed By Our

**25 YEAR GUARANTEE**

Priority Freephone

**0800 61 21 118**

[www.cloudy2clear.com](http://www.cloudy2clear.com)

Broken Or Damaged Windows? Faulty Locks, Handles, Hinges?

## IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# Sporting ethics are not MPs' concerns

AS sporting events go, it is hard to think of anything more dreary than the Tour de France, a spectacle of unsmiling men in synthetic clothing using a slow, outdated form of transport. It's like a three-week episode of the new politically correct Top Gear, without Clarkson's wit.

That said, I can't help but feel sympathy for Sir Bradley Wiggins, who finds his reputation in tatters after a Department for Culture, Media and Sport select committee accused him and his team of "crossing an ethical line."

Now I have no idea whether Wiggins used nefarious means to win the 2012 Tour de France, but since when has it been the role of politicians to adjudicate on sporting conduct? Surely this is a matter for the cycling authorities.

What next? VAR replays being transmitted to Westminster? Parliamentary votes on LBW and penalty decisions? Then again, if somebody wants to make Ken Clarke and John Prescott run the line at the New Den, that's fine with me.

BESIDES, if politicians want to become embroiled in sport, there are more pressing issues.

Last week a man and his daughter were poisoned with nerve gas in Salisbury, and several innocent civilians, including a seriously ill policeman, are in hospital.

If – and it's still a big if – Russia is behind the attacks, our options are limited. Economic sanctions? Been there, done that. Military action? Out of the question. Send a few diplomats home? Putin would laugh up his sleeve.

One thing that would hurt Putin though, would be if his beloved World Cup was in jeopardy. Now if, as suggested, England dropped out, it might be perceived as an empty gesture. After all, our chances of winning are slim. But imagine if France, Germany, Italy, Holland and Belgium also joined the boycott as a show of European solidarity against tyranny. Yeah, right. They'd rather punish us over Brexit.

SO sad to hear about the death of Ken Dodd. One of the last of a dwindling breed, he saw his role as making us laugh. No smut, no politics, just good clean fun.

One of my favourite moments as a journalist was sitting with him backstage at Dudley Town Hall, where he fondly reminisced about his days as a young comedian, cutting his teeth at Dudley Hippodrome followed by some heady nights in its Glue Pot bar.

Sir Ken is no longer with us, and the Hippodrome won't be for much longer either. Sad days.

## Government: It's everybody's fault but theirs



Donald Trump – European Union warning over threat of imposing tariffs



Max Mosley – morphing into Twister from Beeb's Lark Rise to Candleford?



Monty Don – 'seriously misquoted' over using fewer plastic products in our gardens

# It all comes down to blame culture

HOW to be a government. 1) Allow the population to grow by 500,000 a year. 2) Blame local councils for not permitting enough houses. 3) Blame developers for not building enough houses. 4) Blame landowners for not releasing land for more houses. 5) Blame everybody but yourselves.

THE European Union warns that if Donald Trump imposes tariffs, Brussels may retaliate with tariffs on Levi jeans, Harley Davidson motorbikes and bourbon whiskey. The price of that mid-life crisis could go through the roof.

FROM the small ads: "Deep fryer for sale, excellent condition, no chips."

I KNEW this had been a long, miserable winter but it was only after putting my old boat on the lake this week that I realised how long it was the first time I had sailed since October 12. We Brits spend half the year waiting for the other half and hoping it will be better.

I WROTE recently about Donald Trump's joke on "self-deprecating humour." A reader says surely this should be "humor." Not at all. Trump, being an American, said "humor" but I, being British, heard "humour." On my honor.

I AM at the age where blokes worry about prostate cancer. As well they might. Years of watching TV medical dramas has convinced most of us that the Big C follows a pattern. You get the symptoms, go for tests which confirm the GP's hunch, the clever young surgeon cuts out the offending tumour and you live happily ever after (unless the TV ratings are bad, in

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



which case they may bump you off). As a survey this week reveals, prostate cancer is very different.

WITH prostate cancer you may or may not develop symptoms. The only available test for detecting signs of prostate cancer is about as much use as tossing a coin. A follow-up biopsy may leave you impotent, incontinent or both. The cancer may kill you quickly or do nothing, and you die of old age. A serious prostate cancer can look benign and a benign cancer can appear serious. And sometimes surgery can release cancerous cells into the rest of your body. We need a better diagnostic process. So is there no hope? Actually, there is. This latest study followed 400,000 middle-aged men for a decade. And while routine PSA screening for prostate cancer appeared to save no lives, only three men in every 1,000 died of prostate cancer during the 10 years. Those are not bad odds. While there's no room for complacency about prostate cancer, the one thing this survey proves conclusively is that there's a lot of other stuff you can die of.

I SUSPECT Monty Don, the TV gardener, has been seriously misquoted. He wants us to use fewer plastic products in our gardens. This has been translated as a call to "get rid of" plastic tubs, pots, dibbers and so on. But it's getting rid of plastic that has caused the environmental

nightmare in the first place. Don't bin it. Keep the plastic you've got but don't buy any more.

INCIDENTALLY, I am down to my last 18 plastic straws from a box, purchased some years ago, which contained 225 and carries the message from Sainsbury's "We care about our quality and what you think." I wonder what they think I should do with my last 18 straws.

ACCORDING to my local council's latest report, "sport" is the second biggest item of its expenditure. It spends more on maintaining tennis courts and providing pitches where talented amateur footballers can scream obscenities at each other on Sunday mornings than it does on public safety, street cleaning, theatres and museums, and I dare say it's not alone. This country spends billions every year subsidising the entrenched and unchallenged notion that sport is A Good Thing which produces a fit and healthy nation that aims to win but is noble in defeat. Where, oh where, is the evidence?

IT was entirely right and proper that Members of Parliament, in the form of the The Digital, Culture, Media and Sport select committee, should be the ones to dish the dirt this week on drug taking among British cyclists. After all, it's obvious that MPs never take anything to improve their performance.

THE strain may be taking its toll on Max Mosley. Does anyone else think he's morphing into Twister (Karl Johnson) from the Beeb's Victorian drama, Lark Rise to Candleford?

## TALKING POINT



# Sometimes people are thankful for a moan

MY esteemed colleague last week wrote about the importance of saying thank you and I wholeheartedly agree with him on this. However, there are some occasions where I would be more tempted to say no thank you.

Unlike him I am not referring to the common courtesy thank yous when you hold the door open for someone, give them your seat on the train etc. They are always a must. I refer to service that you are less than happy with. Yes in any line of work it is lovely when you receive a phone call or letter expressing gratitude for what you have done but what if the opposite is the case?

I must admit I do have a reputation for complaining about things. Sometimes when we are out for a meal with friends I think they cringe. But if I ask for my steak medium rare that is how I want it, not done to a crisp. You are paying for the food and it should be what you ordered. Or if the food is not hot enough I send it back. I would not expect to eat it like that at home and certainly not when I am paying somebody else to provide it.

And actually the establishment should be grateful for my feedback as maybe the next time they will make sure they get it right for the customer.

It's the same with things bought in shops or online. If that product does not do what you think it should or does not look like it does on the internet site why shouldn't you take/send it back and complain? How will these businesses learn if they never have your opinion – good or bad.

And this can actually lead to a very positive experience for both sides. I recently had a problem – a scratch – with some furniture I ordered. Admittedly it was a small one which I could have covered up if necessary but I went on the online chat line and explained the situation and at no stage did they belittle my comment.

In fact they were grateful for the feedback and sorted out my complaint, turning a bad experience into a good one.

It meant that I would both use the service again and recommend it to friends. Word of mouth is so important for businesses. That is why so many send out feedback forms. You are positively encouraged to give your verdict – good or bad.

So don't be afraid to speak out. As long as it is constructive criticism or a genuine complaint it should be dealt with and hopefully then resolved.

To say thanks is great but there is nothing wrong with saying NO THANKS.

SUE ATTWATER

**STOUR VALLEY CAT RESCUE**

**HUGE JUMBLE SALE & NEARLY NEW**

**at Kinver Methodist Church Hall, Potter's Cross, Kinver**

**SATURDAY 17TH MARCH 2018**

**ALL SALES NOW START AT 12.30PM**

**Admission 30p**

Loads of Bargains, Please Come Along and Support Your Local Cat Rescue

**We are also looking for urgent homes for adults and mature cats**

For further information call Anita on:

**01384 375832**

**MARTYN 4 NEW IDEAS**

- BEAUTIFUL BEDROOMS
- VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES
- FAMILY RUN BUSINESS
- FULL DESIGN & FITTING
- WE VISIT YOU OR COME ALONG TO OUR SHOWROOM IN BRIERLEY HILL
- HUGE RANGE OF STYLES

**Visit our Website**  
[www.martyn4newideas.co.uk](http://www.martyn4newideas.co.uk)  
**For your FREE quote Call Martyn...**  
**01384 482662 / 07802 451232**

**Robins Timber COMPANY**

**SHEET MATERIALS AND D.I.Y SPECIALISTS**

- Rough Sawn & Planed Timber
- MDF Skirting
- Architrave
- Cladding
- Stair Parts
- Tongue & Groove
- Chip Board
- Plaster Board

**BEST PRICES CALL FOR A FREE QUOTATION 01384 78857**

Post crete **£4.99** | Oil based creosote **£10** Sleepers **£16**  
 6x5 larch lap panels (mint) **£17** | Bird tables **£35**  
 Wooden planters from **£10**  
 Trellis, wishing wells, decking, fence paint

**Robins Timber COMPANY**

**Established 80 years** Trade and public welcome

**Every Kind of Timber for every Kind of Job**

Canalside Ind Estate, Wedgbury Way,  
 Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill, DY5 3JZ  
**New website: [www.robinstimmer.com](http://www.robinstimmer.com)**  
**Open: 7.30am-4.30pm Mon-Fri 8.30am-12.30pm Sat**

# Debating Corbyn's take on knife crime

LET us debate the wisdom of that bearded old sage, Jeremy Corbyn, regarding knife crime.

As ever we are treated to one of Jezza's gems. Here in the West Midlands, there have been 21 stabbings so far in 2018, of which five resulted in a murder charge.

While taking a stroll down Stourbridge High Street, Jezza imparted once more a few musings which show how astute he is at looking at a problem, analysing it and coming to a resolution.

"A mandatory jail sentence is not necessary. Community service and re-

storative justice can be a much more effective tool."

He had come to this conclusion because he once interviewed a woman who had been imprisoned three times for major offences.

Luckily for us all, instead of prison, when she came up for sentencing the fourth time, she was given community service. Lo and behold, she became a model citizen.

As I have in the past had community service yobs thrust upon me to do menial jobs, I'm a little confused.

It was round about the time that those orange tabards were dispensed

with due to them causing untold embarrassment to the wearers. The disadvantage of using these men was the fact that if they actually turned up on time, the amount of work done in a day might be an hour or so. Not good if you have a deadline to meet.

Furthermore, the chaps in charge daren't say boo to them for fear of reprisals. Though in my case they did have spades, rakes, wheelbarrows etc, I certainly wouldn't want anyone willing to use a knife within 100 miles of a pick, a fork or pair of scissors.

ALAN M ETHERIDGE  
Dudley

## Devoid of compassion or wind-up?

I CANNOT decide if Stephen Fellows (Letters, March 1), is winding us up or if he is completely devoid of compassion and logic.

Those lovely old top shops disappeared because the likes of Mr Fellows stopped using them. That's business.

Those boarded-up premises are abandoned because the council focused attention on Merry Hill and The Waterfront as the prestigious way forward instead of exercising imaginative policies to encourage enterprise in the town centres around the borough.

Rubbish in the High Street has been dumped by its own worthy citizens.

Why this knee-jerk reaction to the homeless to move them on for another authority to deal with when the answer is right there. Unboard the shops and let the poor souls gather the dumped bedding and make some sort of refuge for themselves.

MARY PEARSON  
Pedmore

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

### EMAIL

dudley.chrons@  
expressandstar.co.uk

### Code of Practice:

Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at [www.ipso.co.uk](http://www.ipso.co.uk). If you are unhappy with the



accuracy of a story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

## Change in law over gun rights needed

THERE can be nothing worse than losing a loved one to a violent gun crime. America has in its constitution the right to bear arms. But you would think most Americans would have reached the conclusion that having this right has led to thousands of innocent people dying.

America needs to realise that allowing so many to be armed does not protect you but increases the chance of being killed. A change in the law to make it illegal to carry arms is needed. It will take years to get the guns off the streets but over time it will be successful.

JOHN GREEN  
Sedgley

## Use cash for Civic on the Hippodrome

WOLVERHAMPTON Council is committed to spending £36million to modernise the Civic/Wolverhampton Halls. Why not abandon that project and use the funds to refurbish Dudley Hippodrome?

The areas around the Hippodrome, the Black Country Museum and Canal Tunnels are becoming a worldwide heritage attraction area and the zoo also brings in tourists. The Hippodrome could be used for major exhibitions as well as the traditional concerts. The road connections and local parking are so much better than Wolverhampton. It could also help reverse the terminal decline of Dudley centre.

Wolverhampton would still have the Grand Theatre, art gallery and university. It is probably too much to hope that our politicians would be brave enough to consider such Black Country co-operation.

DAVID STEELE  
Wolverhampton

# HBClub HAIRCLUB

**Full Colour  
Eyebrow Wax  
Cut & Blow dry  
Short Hair £35**

**Adult Cut  
£6**

**Full head foils  
Toner  
Cut & Blow dry  
Short Hair £50**

**Eyebrow  
Waxing or  
Threading  
£3**

**Regrowth  
£10**

**Child Cut  
£6**

**Skin Fade  
£12**

**Full Colour  
(Short)  
£15**

**10 Foils  
£10**

**NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY**

**Conditions Apply**

**Unit L20, Lower Mall (Next to Poundland)  
Merry Hill Centre, Brierley Hill DY5 1SH**

## CONTEMPORARY & ELEGANT

Bi-fold doors  
Fitted Aluminium or uPVC  
From **£1800** fitted



## VISIT OUR WEBSITE TODAY



Full Range of the  
Latest Composite Doors



From **£550** fitted

## ENTERPRISE GLASS & GLAZING Ltd

*of Brierley Hill*

Enterprise Glass and Glazing Ltd are based in the Brierley Hill area of the West Midlands and since the early 1980's have built a reputation as a leading installer of quality windows, conservatories and doors direct to the public.

## MISTED UNITS?

Replacements,  
Glass cut to size...  
Telephone today  
Free Quotation

**01384 571217**

*Design & Service  
You Can Trust!*



Find us at: **Vine Street, Brierley Hill DY5 1JE** Telephone: **01384 571217** and talk to us today  
Fax: **01384 571427** Email: **sales@enterpriseglazing.co.uk** [www.enterpriseglazing.co.uk](http://www.enterpriseglazing.co.uk)

# Spring SPECIALS



- Top Quality A Rated Products At Great Prices
- Yale Locking Systems
- Swish Window & Door Systems
- Payment On Completion
- Full 10 Year Guarantee
- No Deposit Required

## Call us NOW

**Make the right choice for your new windows, conservatories, orangeries and porches.**

Carera do not use high pressure salesmen, it has had the same owner since it opened in 1989. Call them now for your **FREE** no obligation quotations. Our visit takes approximately 20-30 minutes

**Visit our large beautiful showroom with all products on display for a warm welcome**



**Proud to have worked with**



**WINDOWS · DOORS · PORCHES · ORANGERIES · CONSERVATORIES**



24, Junction Rd, Audnam, Stourbridge DY8 4YJ

Telephone: **01384 442 490**

**[www.carerawindows.co.uk](http://www.carerawindows.co.uk)**

**Yale**

**FENSA**  
Registered Company

Secured by Design  
STED  
Police-Approved Specifier

# Failings at hospital contributed to death

**NEGLECT** at Sandwell General Hospital contributed to the death of a pensioner from Rowley Regis.

Frank Hayward 'may not have died' if hospital staff had spotted the 83-year-old was suffering a bleed to the brain after a fall.

Coroner Mr Zafar Siddique on Friday recorded a conclusion of accidental death, contributed to by neglect.

He said there were 'failures' when staff did not diagnose his bleed following a CT scan and a 'missed opportunity' to identify the former sheet metal worker had fractured his neck.

Mr Hayward's health deteriorated during his stay, contracting norovirus and falling from his bed.

He died before his family, who had been warned to stay away after an outbreak of the infection, got to the hospital on December 10.

The coroner added: "There were a catalogue of issues. The systems in place were inadequate at the time."

## Nurse

Chief Nurse Elaine Newell said: "We are very sorry for the death of Frank Hayward and would like to offer our deepest sympathies to his family and friends."

"We recognise that we missed opportunities to make Frank more comfortable whilst he was in hospital, and should have identified the extent of his injury whilst he was in our emergency department."

"We are adding to the documentation for the management of head injuries to ensure all necessary tests are done as a matter of urgency, and are sharing the learning from his experience with colleagues across the trust."



The family of Frank Hayward heard that his death may have been preventable

## Club's best year raises £87k

A SPORTING club donated a record amount of more than £87,000 to good causes and charities in 2017.

There have been changes at the top of Pedmore Sporting Club with Jon Bellfield becoming president of the Stourbridge-based club after two years as chairman. He has been replaced in that role by Adrian Grainger.

Mr Bellfield, executive chairman of property developers and investors Barberry Group, said 2017 had been a record year of fundraising for Ped-

more Sporting Club. He revealed that £87,914 was going to good causes.

A summer ball raised more than £20,000, a celebrity lunch with former boxing world champion John Conteh collected more than £2,500, while a dinner raised almost £2,700.

Donations included £10,000 to Acorns Hospice, £5,000 to Meningitis Research, £3,480 to Help for Heroes, and £16,000 to Debbie Drew, who was brain damaged when helping to rescue a boy from drowning.

**QUALITY  
KITCHEN  
FACELIFTS**

**A fresh approach  
to a new kitchen**



**Est.  
1999**

*Why replace when  
you can reface?*

- Trusted reputation
- Made to measure custom-built doors and units
- Door swaps to full kitchens - tailored to your needs



**BEFORE**

**DREAM DOORS®**  
NEW LIFE FOR OLD KITCHENS

[www.dreamdoors.co.uk](http://www.dreamdoors.co.uk)

View our credentials on

[Checkatrade.com](http://Checkatrade.com)



Call Gary For a Free Estimate

**01384 466991** [dy@dreamdoors.co.uk](mailto:dy@dreamdoors.co.uk)

26 Lower High Street, Stourbridge, DY8 1TA

**Make the RIGHT decision this Spring and give RYDALE a ring...**

# RYDALE SPRING SALE



Valeting Services now available to restore all your uPVC products. Guttering and Driveways valeting available.

**Windows, Doors, Conservatories, Orangeries, Porches, Fascias and Soffit Boards**



Order a conservatory or full house of windows and you will get a full valeting service on your guttering or windows or conservatory totally FREE.

No deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed

Visit one of the largest conservatory and window showrooms in the UK

Supplied & Fitted... across the Midlands

Repair Service Available



Replace the existing roof on your conservatory and create a comfortable environment and a room you can use all year round



Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry. No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, and that's why we have been in business for more than 30 years.



**MASSIVE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON MARCH INSTALLATIONS**

**FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060** [www.rydalewindows.co.uk](http://www.rydalewindows.co.uk) Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen B62 9LS

Open Weekdays: 9am to 5.30pm  
Saturday: 9am to 4pm Sunday Closed

# After 36 Years of Trading, there really is no one else in the Frame

**WE WILL  
BEAT ANY  
LIKE FOR LIKE  
QUOTATION\***  
(T & C's apply)



We are a professional, family run, local company installing quality windows, doors, conservatories and orangeries. We pride ourselves on our high quality standards and that we can offer all our customers total satisfaction on whatever you need.

## Wombourne Windows™

ORANGERIES AND CONSERVATORIES

**For more information call us now on**

**Freephone 0800 085 8518**

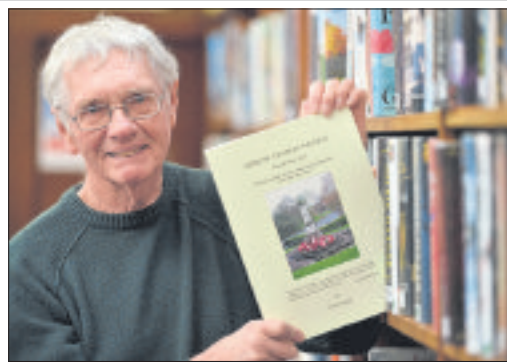
or visit our website at [www.wombourne-windows.co.uk](http://www.wombourne-windows.co.uk)

Morlock House, Bridgnorth Road, Wombourne, South Staffs WV5 0AL

Showroom Opening Hours Monday - Thursday 10am - 6pm, Friday 10am - 5pm, Saturday 10am - 4pm, Sunday 10am - 2pm

\*\*Authorised and regulated by the financial conduct authority. We are a credit broker not a lender. We offer credit facilities from one lender.





Terry Evans has focused on experiences of Cradley servicemen

# Cradley's memorial inspired Second World War book

A BLACK Country historian has had a book published about armed forces personnel from Cradley who fought in the Second World War.

Author Terry Evans has focused on the impact of the war on local people. It comes just over four years after a book by Mr Evans about Cradley's finest during the First World War.

Some of Cradley's Finest - World War Two tells the tales of people connected to the area, those who

lost their lives in the conflict and those who survived.

The book has been published by Midland Film And Art, based in Cradley, and will be distributed by the Cradley Then and Now history group.

Retired metallurgist Mr Evans, aged 73, said: "Originally the idea came when I was looking at the Cradley war memorial. I was just looking at the names on there and then I started to research it.

"It was just a hobby to start with but when I retired I decided to put it into a book. That's when I got into it properly.

Mr Evans, who grew up in Cradley but now lives in Halesowen, added: "It is the stories of men with Cradley connections who fought in the war, some named on the war memorial and some not. The war memorial was the catalyst but there are others who need to be remembered as well."

# Failing Carillion paid consultants £6.4m

COLLAPSED construction and outsourcing group Carillion paid £6.4 million to advisers the day before pleading with the Government for an emergency loan of £10m.

The Wolverhampton-based business made the payments on January 12, figures from the Official Receiver have revealed. The following day Carillion chairman Philip Green wrote to the Cabinet Office warning the company would fall into insolvency if it could not secure a bail-out. The Government refused on January 14 and Carillion applied for liquidation the next day. Payments included £2.5m to accounting firm Ernst and Young, £1.2m to law firm Slaughter and May, £1m to FTI Consulting.

Chairman of the House of Commons business select committee Rachel Reeves MP said Carillion's board 'ensured that the costs of failure would be picked up by the taxpayer'.

# Drug dealer took wrong turn straight to the police

Report by John Scott

**ERRATIC driving in Dudley put a drug dealer on the road to a six year prison sentence.**

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that Theodore Harris cut a corner at speed and made a wrong turn into a cul-de-sac where two police officers were making inquiries into an unrelated matter.

A resident told them: 'That car does not belong around here.' The officers went to investigate and saw a throwing axe lying on the front passenger seat.

Mr Antoine Muller, prosecuting, said this prompted a detailed search of the hire car that unearthed more than £2,000 worth of high purity cocaine, cannabis and heroin. A stab proof vest and phones used for drug dealing were also found. Harris was arrested in The Willows, Netherton on November 8.

## Bail

This was seven months after he had been freed on bail pending further inquiries after being stopped at the wheel of another hire car in Weymouth, Dorset. Then the 28-year-old, of no fixed address, had been travelling to Dorchester with another second stab proof vest in the boot. He also had wraps of crack cocaine hidden in his sock and £1,360 cash in his pockets.

Harris had been questioned and released on bail on February 12, the court was told.

The father-of-two was a crack addict with a string of drug offences but had not been accused of dealing before his most recent crimes, said Mr Muller.

Judge Dean Kershaw told the defendant: "No street dealer sells drugs of this purity. You were closer than most to the source of the cocaine.

"The fact you had stab proof vests is indicative of the dangerous nature of what you were up to. Yours was a significant role."

Harris, whose children are one and two-years-old, pleaded guilty to possession of cocaine with intent to supply in Weymouth on January 27 last year and admitted possessing crack, heroin and cannabis with intent to supply in Netherton on November 8.

# Hero's widow is hit by lighter at match

The widow of West Bromwich Albion legend Jeff Astle has said she will never attend another match after being hit by a cigarette lighter during ugly scenes at Saturday's clash with Leicester City at the Hawthorns.

Laraine Astle was not hurt but saw a young boy and a woman injured by missiles during the match, which Albion lost 4-1. It was the first home game Mrs Astle had attended since Astle Day almost three years ago.

She said: "It was awful. I have never seen such venom, nor have I felt so frightened at a game in the 54 years I have followed the Albion.

"I felt like a sitting duck. The young woman sitting behind me was struck by a coin that missed her eye by fractions of an inch. It could have blinded her.

"The little lad sitting near me was hit by the cigarette lighter which then struck me on the shoulder before bouncing into the hand of my daughter Claire. "The way I feel now I never want to go to another game of football."

Five arrests were made and police investigations continue.

# WILLIAM & SONS Lounge | Leather | Dining | Living | Bedrooms | Beds

# SPRING CLEAROUT!

■ SAVE UP TO 75%! ■ SOME AT COST PRICE... OR LESS! ■ ALL STOCK MUST GO! ■ NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED!

**3 DAYS ONLY, THIS FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY... DON'T MISS OUR MANY INCREDIBLE BARGAINS!**

"We urgently need to make room for our exciting new 2018 furniture collections. All this WEEKEND we're selling off large quantities of our huge showroom's stock including lounge, leather, living & bedroom furniture, beds, sofa beds & bedframes! These items are so keenly priced and are all available for immediate collection or delivery\*, so they won't stay around for long! **There are even HUGE discounts on ALL special orders!**"



**ULTRA HUDSON**  
WAS £699 SAVE £400  
**NOW £299**



**HTL CAVALI**  
WAS £1199 SAVE £780  
**NOW £419**



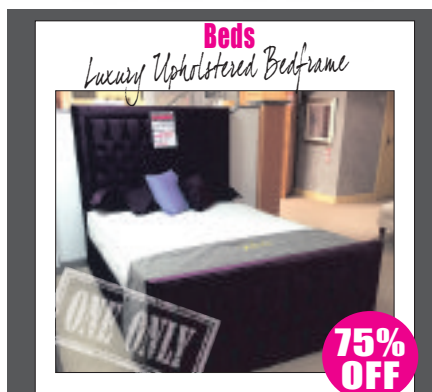
**MARBELLA**  
WAS £1579 SAVE £1000  
**NOW £579**



**MARK WEBSTER PORTLAND**  
WAS £1699 SAVE £1274  
**NOW £425**



**BOUYANT LINCOLN**  
WAS £1099 SAVE £600  
**NOW £499**



**MI-BED VIOLET**  
WAS £849 SAVE £637  
**NOW £212**



Level Street | Merry Hill | Dudley | West Midlands | DY5 1UA | T. 01384 77444 CLEARANCE TIMES: Friday 10-5.30pm Saturday 10-6pm Sunday 11-5pm  
www.williamandsons.co.uk

All offers are subject to availability. Clearance items clearly marked in-store. Delivery charge applies. E&OE.



Small Appliances • Large Appliances • Catering Equipment • Hair Care • Spares

# Graded Product Specialists

**Swan Retro**  
designed for life

Available in



[www.kettleandtoasterman.co.uk](http://www.kettleandtoasterman.co.uk)

**THOUSANDS OF PRODUCTS ONLINE**  
**USE DISCOUNT CODE "FREEPOST" TO**  
**RECEIVE FREE STANDARD DELIVERY**

**Kettle and Toaster Man**

**TRADE WAREHOUSE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Unit 2C, Albion Works, Moor St., Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 3SZ

**Tel: 01384 483 286**

Est. Over 20 Years \* OPEN: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 8am-12pm

We specialise in finding you the best deals available on daily basis. We stock electrical and other amazing retail products at up to 90% off the normal retail selling price.



SH

**Valid until 18/3/18**

# Historic 18th century church is to be restored to glory

AN historic church in Dudley will undergo a £280,000 revamp. Bottom Church on Castle Street, which is officially known as St Edmund King and Martyr, will have its tower repaired and a new kitchen and toilet installed.

The church site dates back to 1190 but the previous church was demolished after the Civil War and the current building was built in 1724 and is currently listed on the Historic England 'at risk register'.

The project is being funded largely by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), while The Wolfson Foundation and the Garfield Weston Foundation have also contributed to the cost of restoration.

Church treasurer Jon Harcourt said: "We're delighted that after a great deal of hard work, our lovely church will be restored to its former glory. It has been on Heritage England's 'at risk register' for some time now due to the poor state of the tower roof, damaged stonework, brickwork and failed pointing.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for repairs to be made and for the community to get involved in the church to help provide a place where the history of this part of Dudley can be enjoyed."



Supporters of Dudley's historic Bottom Church celebrate repairs and restoration at the leaky building

# 50,000 seat stadium goal for Wolves boss

WOLVES chairman Jeff Shi has revealed his dream for a 50,000 capacity stadium at Molineux.

A stadium redevelopment had been on hold since 2012 when Wolves were relegated from the Premier League.

Ambitious owners Fosun are planning to expand Molineux if and when the team is established in the top flight.

"Let's try to get to 50,000 as soon as possible," Mr Shi said. "Everyone wants to have a big stadium. It's a step-by-step process and only when we build a strong team and can compete comfortably in the Premier League is the time to expand the stadium."

He said managing director Laurie Dalrymple had said the maximum capacity would be 50,000.

"I even asked him can we have a bigger one like Real Madrid's," he said. "But it's hard because the position of the stadium, the university is behind us. Expansion will be step by step."

# Ketley Hill brings total new homes up to 200

TENANTS are moving into the latest homes to be built as part of Dudley Council's commitment to build hundreds of new council homes.

Nearly eight years ago Dudley Council embarked on a project to build new council homes across the borough, with a further commitment in 2014 to build hundreds of homes within a five year period.

The completion of its latest development on Ketley Hill Road has seen the council reach a total of more than 200 completions since the project began.

The Ketley Hill scheme is a development of 20 homes. It includes a mix of two, three and four bedroom houses and is the first scheme to include a number of two bedroom dormer bungalows.

## Brownfield

The scheme cost in the region of £2.8 million. It has been funded in part by the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Deal to support landowners and developers transform brownfield sites into new communities fit for 21st century living.

Councillor Laura Taylor, cabinet member for housing, said: "With the completion of this latest development we have now built more than 200 new council homes, which is fantastic news for the borough. "We have demands for all kinds of flats, houses and bungalows but it's great to see this development offer something a little different. This is the first time we've been able to build dormer bungalows and they are a valued addition to our stock, offering flexible and modern living for tenants.

"Our ambition to build council houses doesn't stop here. We remain committed



Councillor Laura Taylor

to building on our successes, with many new council homes due to be built over coming months."

Dr Chris Handy, Black Country LEP Board Member, said: "Funding via the Black Country LEP has enabled investment in new housing and is important part in our transformational journey in the Black Country."

"This project is an important example of councils building again, which is great news. We need our local authorities to build homes as well as other developers if we are to go to build the homes we need for the future."

The homes have been built by local developer Jesup Brothers

Other recent new build schemes are at Davies Avenue, Marley Road, Mars Close and Leabank Road.

# Photographer talks

A CAMERA club is hosting photographer Rosie Hardy for a talk next month. The fashion, portrait and art photographer will be giving a talk entitled 365 Days of Creativity at Hagley Camera Club on April 10 at 8.30pm at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Wordsley. Entry is open to anyone and tickets are £9 in advance or £10 on the door. All proceeds to the Tim Bacon Foundation supporting cancer charities. See [www.hagleycameraclub.co.uk](http://www.hagleycameraclub.co.uk) website.

## HURRY, CLEARANCE EVENT IS NOW IN ITS FINAL WEEK!

COUSINS FURNITURE, CARPETS, BEDS & HOMEWARES

# £6 MILLION CLEARANCE

If you're seriously thinking of buying any item of furniture, then don't miss this great opportunity!

### LIVING ROOM

<b>PARKER KNOLL</b> Sofas and chairs - ex display stock	Save at least 60%
<b>ALEXANDER &amp; JAMES</b> Curzon velvet accent chair with studded finish	Save £472 Was £993 <b>£327</b>
<b>DURESTA</b> Holmes 2 seater sofa and chair	Save £4324 Was £5999 <b>£1975</b>
<b>NATUZZI EDITIONS</b> Vianello 2 seater sofa with adjustable headrests	Save £1207 Was £1799 <b>£592</b>
<b>GPLAN</b> Marple high back 3 seater (double recliners) and power chair	Save £1604 Was £2809 <b>£1224</b>

### BEDROOM

<b>NOLTE BEDROOMS</b> Fitted German ex-display bedroom ranges to clear	Save 65%
<b>BAKER</b> Bournemouth reclaimed wood double wardrobe	Save £559 Was £1429 <b>£571</b>
<b>CHESTS OF DRAWERS</b> Assorted designs and finishes - must be cleared!	From £48

### BEDS

<b>HEADBOARDS</b> Assorted designs and finishes	From £15
<b>REST ASSURED</b> Memory 800 double drawer divan set	Save £333 Was £649 <b>£316</b>
<b>HARRISON</b> Austwick pocket spring king size mattress	Save £459 Was £899 <b>£370</b>

## STOCK MOVING FAST, HURRY FINAL WEEK!

Stock is arriving daily, with many one off bargains that won't be repeated as well as leading brand names, for immediate delivery.

**ALL EXISTING STOCK MUST BE CLEARED - SOME AT COST OR EVEN LESS!!**

This event offers a great opportunity to save upto 70% on an unrivalled selection of sofas, chairs, beds, dining, bedroom and occasional furniture plus accessories and rugs at unbelievably low prices, including all the brands.

**Don't miss this great opportunity, the Clearance event is now in its Final Week!**

**THERE IS ALSO BIG DISCOUNTS OFF ALL SPECIAL MADE TO ORDER ITEMS.**

# Cousins

Established 1985

a true family business

Birmingham Warwick Road, Tyseley. B11 2EW. T: 0121 765 3300

Dudley Hall Street, DY2 8NW. T: 01384 451500

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK / LATE NIGHTS TUESDAY & THURSDAY UNTIL 8PM**

Offer not available on web specials or in-store concessions. Certain items shown are one only and subject to availability. \*See website for Price Promise details.

### DINING ROOM

<b>WILLIS &amp; GAMBIER</b> Extending dining table with two leaves and 6 chairs	Save £2273 Was £3699 <b>£1426</b>
<b>STONE INTERNATIONAL</b> Marble dining table and 6 Marie chairs	Save £2002 Was £3499 <b>£1077</b>
<b>DINING CHAIRS TO CLEAR</b> Assorted styles and designs	From £10
<b>BENTLEY DESIGNS</b> Hamstead painted oak lamp table	Save £171 Was £299 <b>£88</b>
<b>SKOVBY</b> Dining table	Save 50%

**EVERYTHING REDUCED**  
**NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED!**  
**EVERYTHING MUST GO!**

### HOMEWARES

<b>JOSEPH JOSEPH</b> Kitchenware stock must be cleared!	Save 35%
<b>SCATTER CUSHIONS</b> Assorted designs and colours	From £4
<b>CONTEMPORARY</b> Wall Art and Pictures to clear	Save 60%

[cousinsfurniture.co.uk](http://cousinsfurniture.co.uk)



Souvenir programme from the 1958 tour



The Gaumont where Buddy Holly performed



Buddy Holly on stage at Birmingham Town Hall on March 10, 1958

# Oh Boy! That'll be the day that fans remember

**WHEN** Buddy Holly performed at The Gaumont Cinema in Wolverhampton 60 years ago his career was on the crest of a wave.

Excited fans turned out to see the new American rock 'n' roll phenomenon, still only 21, on his first – and as it tragically turned out, his last – UK tour which took in the city venue.

His performances wowed devotees. In the audience at Birmingham Town Hall three nights afterwards was 12-year-old John Lodge, who later said: "Buddy Holly was the person who made me understand that I could be a musician. He was incredible."

The following decade Lodge rose to fame as bass player with The Moody Blues along with fellow Holly fan Justin Hayward.

In celebration of the 60th anniversary of the star's visit, tribute act Buddy Holly and the Crickets will perform with the English Rock and

## MEMORY LANE

Report by Marion Brennan

Roll Orchestra at 22 venues across the UK – including the Wolverhampton gig – the exact date Holly himself played six decades ago.

Organisers tried to book the same venues on the same dates but the Gaumont, on the corner of Snow Hill and St George's Parade, was knocked down in 1973.

### Meters

The site is now occupied by a Wilkinson's store, so instead the gig was staged last week at the Grand Theatre. There are no known pictures of Holly's visit to Wolverhampton and few accounts of his two shows that day.

But it is known the singer and his band, bassist Joe Mauldin and drummer Jerry Allison, stayed at the Victoria Hotel, now the Britannia, next to the Grand after their second performance.

Mauldin recalled the bedrooms in the Victoria Hotel were large with high ceilings, which meant they were quite cold. He said: "We were continually putting coins into the gas meters for the fires."

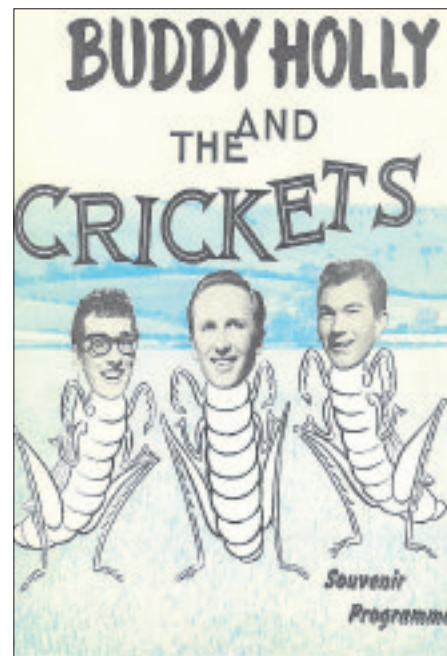
The visit was researched 10 years ago by Walsall historian Ian Payne on the 50th anniversary of the legend's performance in the town. It led to the book, *The Day that Buddy Came to Town*, which is now available in the Wolverhampton Archives.

Mr Payne said: "I wanted to make a lasting tribute, partly because my parents were keen Buddy Holly fans and partly after being inspired by a musical tribute to him several years ago."

"I'm delighted the 60th anniversary is being marked in this way and it's poignant they are keeping to the exact dates he performed on his tour."

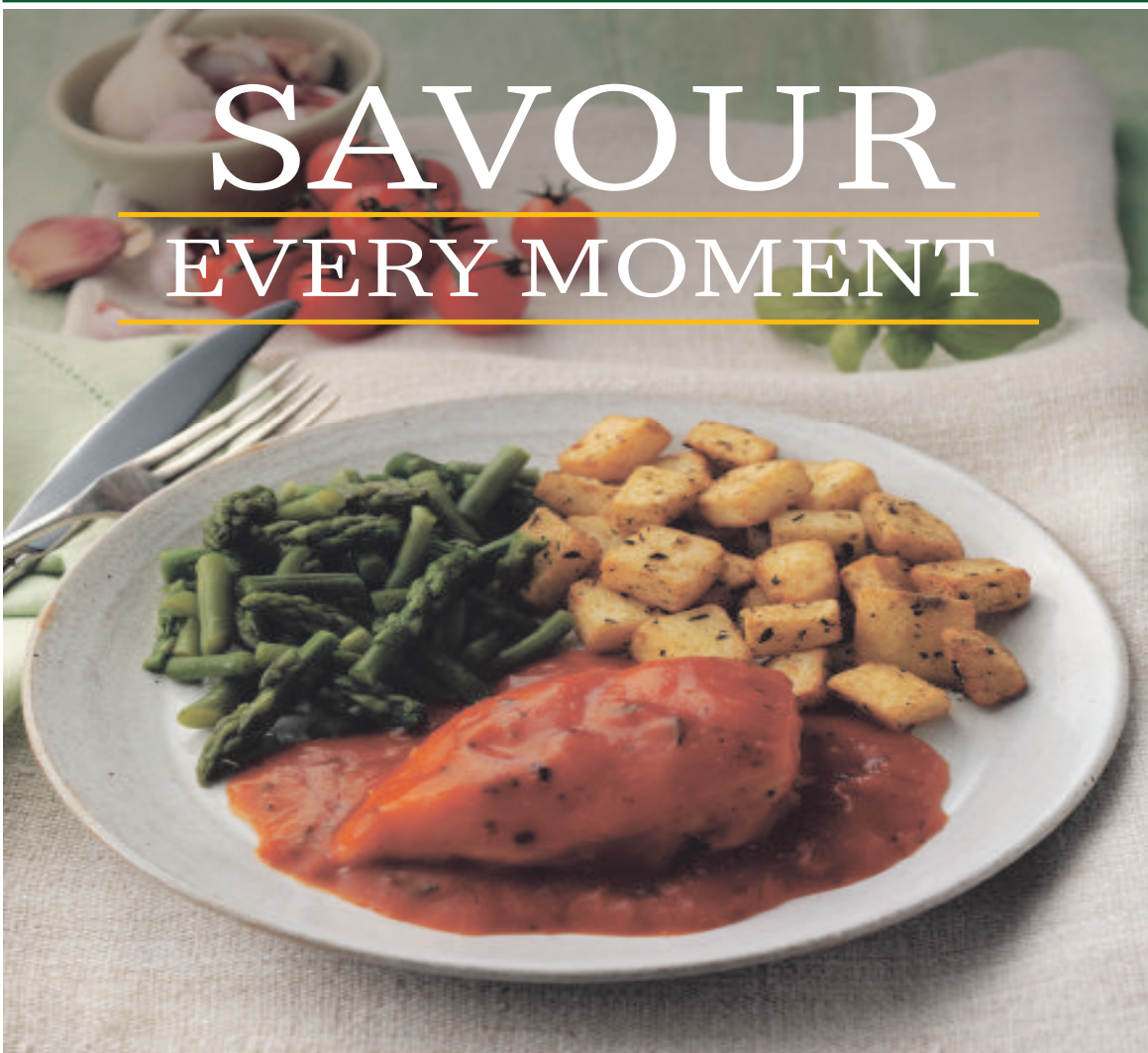
"He made a mark on this region and it's clear his fans loved him."

A programme from the 1958 tour reveals Holly's appearance was part of a variety-style show compered by a young Des O'Connor.



Souvenir programme from the 1958 tour

# SAVOUR EVERY MOMENT



With our delicious frozen meals and desserts, prepared by award-winning chefs and delivered free by your local team, you've more time to enjoy doing the things you love.

For your free brochure visit [wiltshirefarmfoods.com](http://wiltshirefarmfoods.com) or call  
**01384 262555**

**WILTSHIRE**

EST. **FARM** 1991

**FOODS**

**OVER 300 DELICIOUS DISHES**

**FREE FRIENDLY DELIVERY**

**TRUSTED LOCAL SERVICE**

# We offer a door replacement service.

but why settle for a re-vamp when you could have a brand new kitchen for a similar price.

Call us for a quote on both options!



## Get this brand new Kitchen for **£1999**



The price you pay includes baseunits, wall units, drawer pack, 40mm laminated worktops, handles, soft close hinges, plinth, cornice, pelmet and VAT. As illustrated above. Excludes Sink, tap, fitting and all appliances.

# £1999

**Call in to see ex-showroom display furniture and appliances at fantastic prices**

# Kitchen Clearance Centre

Make sure you compare our prices before you purchase elsewhere!

Old Bush Street, off Level Street, Merry Hill DY5 1UA. Tel: 01384 262303

### OPEN

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri &  
Sat - 10am - 5.00pm.

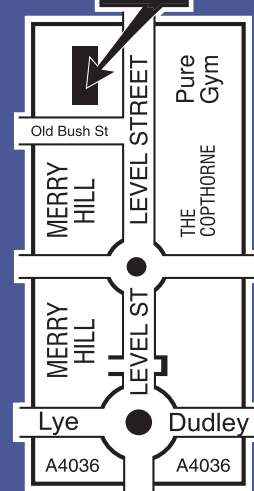
**Thursday**

**10am - 7.00pm**

Sunday 10am - 4pm.

**Find us  
next to Avanti**

WE ARE  
HERE





**78 Bridgnorth Road  
Wollaston  
Stourbridge  
DY8 3PA**

**OAK  
TREE**  
DENTAL &  
IMPLANT  
PRACTICE

Please call reception to  
book your first NHS visit  
01384 37 25 25

[www.oaktreedentalandimplant.com](http://www.oaktreedentalandimplant.com)

**TAKING  
ON NHS  
PATIENTS**



## £4m transformation of castle nearly finished

THE finishing touches are being added to a multi-million pound project designed to transform Hartlebury Castle into a visitor attraction.

Key elements of the project will include exciting interactive galleries where visitors will discover stories of the castle's residents from the past 1,000 years.

They will be able to tour the grand state rooms and for the first time enjoy a walk around the historic parkland and gardens, before relaxing in the new cafe.

A £5 million grant from The Heritage Lottery Fund was awarded to Hartlebury Castle Preservation Trust in 2014 to enable it to buy and rede-

velop the former home of the Bishops of Worcester.

Work on the site is nearing completion and will transform the castle into a visitor destination.

People will be able to discover the history, culture, and architectural significance of Hartlebury and a public launch has been scheduled for May 7.

# Concert marks a century since end of the First World War

**A SPECIAL memorial concert to mark 100 years since the end of the First World War is to be held in Dudley this month.**

Taking works composed in the name of peace, Dudley Town Hall is joining forces with Gig Caritas to stage a 1918 Memorial Concert at Dudley Town Hall on Saturday, March 24. The main work will be Karl Jenkins' hugely popular *The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace*. There will also be works by Faure, Tippett, Holst and Haydn.

The concert will feature the 70-strong Restoration Chorus, 60 players from Stourbridge Chamber Orchestra as well as Third From The Right Productions providing readings.

It will also feature guest soprano soloist Louise Maguire, who will be coming back to her home region from Reims in France where she now lives and performs.

Mayor of Dudley Councillor Dave Tyler said: "I'm really looking forward to attending this event."

"It's so important for us to remember those who gave their lives on the fields of battle and this promises to be a poignant and memorable evening."

### Charities

Musical director will be Stourbridge-based Keith Horsfall, with the evening in aid of the Mayor of Dudley's three chosen charities - Dudley Mind, Dudley Alzheimer's Society and the YMCA Black Country Group.

Keith Horsfall, musical director for Gig Caritas, said: "Karl Jenkins' magnificent work *The Armed Man* is a wonderfully approachable but intensely moving musical plea for the cause of peace."

"This provides an opportunity to have an immensely enjoyable evening whilst at the same time remembering those who gave their lives so that we can enjoy the freedoms that we have today."

*The Armed Man* is a Mass by Welsh composer Mr Jenkins and was commissioned by the Royal Armouries Museum for the Millennium celebrations, to mark the museum's move from London to Leeds, and it was dedicated to victims of the Kosovo crisis.

Tickets cost £12 plus booking fees, available by calling (01384) 812812 or online at [www.boroughhalls.co.uk](http://www.boroughhalls.co.uk). The concert starts at 7.30pm.

## Meet Miss Black Country



**Alexandra Darby now has her eyes on the Miss England title**

YOU might recognise her as the Black Country's version of pop sensation Taylor Swift, but beauty queen Alexandra Darby is now wearing a new crown.

The Rowley Regis pageant star has achieved her Wildest Dreams after she was named Miss Black Country 2018/19 earlier this month.

The 22-year-old took on more than 300 other competitors to take the tiara, and said she was 'overwhelmed' by her victory.

Alex, who works as a singer and Taylor Swift tribute act across the country, said: "I was just so excited and overwhelmed - mainly over-

whelmed because of all the work I've put into this."

"It was amazing when I found out, I had so many friends there and the whole room was buzzing."

Alex, a former Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy student, entered Miss Black Country for the first time back in 2016, but did not win the title, which made her even more determined this time round.

Her hard work paid off, as for 2018 she not only took the overall crown for the competition, but also won Miss Intellect and Miss Charity, and will go through to the Miss England finals in August.

## St George's Day fun returns to zoo and castle

TICKETS are on sale for St George's Day celebrations at Dudley Zoo and Castle.

Dudley Council and Dudley Zoological Gardens have teamed up to host a fantastic day of entertainment to celebrate the legend of St George on Sunday, April 22.

Visitors will be able to join in the fun in the 11th century castle's courtyard with St George themed activities including medieval re-enact-

ments, children's entertainers Flip & Dippy, dragon puppets, face painting and craft activities.

History talks and ghost tours will be taking place throughout the afternoon and refreshments will be available from the Queen Mary restaurant.

Book tickets online now by visiting [www.dudleyzoo.org.uk](http://www.dudleyzoo.org.uk) or by calling (01384) 215313.

## One in eight are not registered to vote in elections

ONE in eight people in the West Midlands are not registered to vote in the upcoming local elections.

The Electoral Commission says that across the region 12 per cent of eligible voters are not registered.

It comes as the Black Country gets set to go to the polls on May 3.

The commission has launched a new campaign 'Got 5?', to encourage peo-

ple to register before the April 17 deadline and also to highlight where polls will be held.

It's estimated between 390,000 and 510,000 aren't registered to vote in the West Midlands. The campaign is targeted at under 34s, recent home-movers and private renters.

To register to vote visit [gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://gov.uk/register-to-vote) before the April 17 deadline.

# Family commended on campaign to find 'Liggy'

THE family of a man found dead seven weeks after he went missing were praised at his inquest for their nationwide appeal to find him.

It came as the tragic details of Matthew Gill's death were revealed at a coroner's court hearing.

The search for Mr Gill, who went missing on October 6 last year, caught attention as Wolves and Albion both joined the appeal and missing posters were distributed across the country.



Matthew Gill

But his family's hopes were shattered when his body was found on land off Prestwood Drive, near Stourton, on November 28.

## Depression

Cannock Coroner's Court heard how the 43-year-old Stourbridge man, who died as a result of hanging, was found by a girl when moving horses on November 28.

The inquest heard that foliage may have obscured the location of the body when police originally scoured the area.

Mr Gill, who was known as Liggy, had been suffering with anxiety and depression.

Police discovered his silver Smart Roadster car near Petzone, off the A449 at Prestwood, after he vanished. His mobile phone had been switched on for a few hours on October 19.

Coroner Andrew Haigh recorded a conclusion of suicide.

He commended Mr Gill's family and friends for their efforts to try to find their loved one.

## Thoroughly successful



Student Luci Gualano prepares to go on stage in the show Thoroughly Modern Millie, which was staged at Dudley College last week

TALENTED students brought the roaring 1920s to life as audiences packed Dudley College theatre to see them perform musical Thoroughly Modern Millie.

More than 35 musical theatre and technical theatre students performed the show over three nights, to a total audience of around 400.

The show is based on a 1967 film which starred Julie Andrews and James Fox.

Curriculum leader for performing arts, Greg Burrows, said: "It went brilliantly, the performances were excellent. We wanted to challenge our tech students and they lived up to it. They were brilliant. We always choose popular award-winning shows that suit our students."

Students from various disciplines helped, such as graphics students designing posters and media students filmed the show.

HALF PRICE  
SUBSCRIPTION OFFER  
JUST £2.00 PER MONTH (INC. P&P)



To subscribe call our free customer care hotline on 0800 146 540

Overseas 12-month gift subscriptions are available from: Europe £73.56, rest of the world £110.76 (Includes P&P, Direct Debit or Pre-payment)

WOLVERHAMPTON  
MAGAZINE



## Quality Kitchen Makeovers Ltd

### UNBEATABLE QUALITY AND VALUE FROM THE BESPOKE SPECIALISTS

**40% OFF**

Doors and Draw fronts  
31st March, 2018

**10% OFF**

All New Kitchens, Bedrooms, Bathrooms  
OFFERS CANNOT BE COMBINED



What our customers say...

"Wonderful kitchen, I have already recommended you and would not hesitate to recommend QKM to anyone."

"Can't believe the transformation from start to finish, totally professional."

Appliances: Neff, Bosch, Rangemaster, Belling, Hotpoint, Stoves and many more

Franke Sinks 50 Year Guarantee

**Don't Settle for Less**

- Kitchens ● Bedrooms
- Bathrooms ● Extensions
- Loft Conversions
- Home Offices

From a door or worktop replacement to an extension

**HOMEOWNERS...**

**Looking to Sell?**

Enhance the prospects of selling your property - stunning results for a minimum outlay

**Just Moved In?**

Let us help to transform your property into a dream home

**Decided to Stay?**

Fall in love again with your home - Revamp your kitchen, bedroom or bathroom and allow us to show your home's true potential

Bring us your dream pictures and we will bring them to life

We are now members of  
**Checkatrade.com**

Where reputation matters



At QKM

We are dedicated to offering our customers the finest service within the home improvement market

**THE GUILD OF MASTER CRAFTSMEN**  
Membership No A120074

"We have customers who would be more than happy to show you the excellent standard of work"

All types of Flooring supplied and Wet Wall Solutions for Bathrooms

Range of Kitchens, Bedrooms and Bathrooms to suit all budgets

Did you know 80% of our customers are retired?  
60% plus of all our appointments are referrals or existing customers requiring further work.

Find out why we are trusted for yourself

**BOOK YOUR NO OBLIGATION QUOTE TODAY ON 01384 232413**

**Head Office & Showroom**

**149 Cinder Bank, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9BL**

**01299 877718 | 01384 232413 | 0121 550 4821**

Open Mon - Fri 9am - 5.30pm, Thursdays 9am - 7pm

Saturdays 10am - 4pm

Customer satisfaction guaranteed.  
**WE WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN**

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



[www.qualitykitchenmakeoversltd.co.uk](http://www.qualitykitchenmakeoversltd.co.uk)

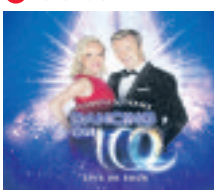
**FIVE MINUTES FROM MERRY HILL**

It's all happening  
BIRMINGHAMGENTING  
ARENA  
Arena  
BIRMINGHAM**JOHN BISHOP**

● 23 Mar 2018

**ROY ORBISON**  
HOLOGRAM TOUR WITH  
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC  
CONCERT ORCHESTRA

● 9 Apr 2018

**MANIC STREET  
PREACHERS**  
RESISTANCE IS FUTILE

● 13-15 Apr 2018

**THE VENGABOYS**

● 27 Apr 2018



● 1 May 2018

**MICHAEL  
MCINTYRE'S**  
**BIG WORLD  
TOUR**

● 10-13 May 2018

**BILL BAILEY**

● 2 Jun 2018

**JASON  
MANFORD**

● 20 Jul 2018

**THE FOUR TOPS  
& THE TEMPTATIONS**

● 22 Nov 2018

**PETE TONG**  
& THE HERITAGE ORCHESTRA  
Conducted by Jules Buckley  
**IBIZA  
CLASSICS**

● 28 Nov 2018

**FRANKIE VALLI  
& THE FOUR SEASONS**

● 1 Dec 2018

**FRANKIE VALLI  
& THE FOUR SEASONS**

● 1 Dec 2018

**elf**  
A CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

● 17 Dec 2018

**elf**  
A CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

● 20-24 Dec 2018

● GENTINGARENA.CO.UK ● ARENABHAM.CO.UK /theticketfactory.com

CASH **Hawthorne & Walker** CARRY**SPECIAL  
EASTER  
OFFER****Best Boneless  
Sirloins or Beef**  
**Was £7.99lb****Now £5.99lb = £13.20 Kilo****Best Boneless  
Rib Eyes**  
**Was £7.99lb****Now £5.99lb = £13.20 Kilo****SPECIAL  
EASTER  
OFFER****Whole best fresh Rumps  
of Beef i.e. Hipbone Steak**  
**£4.54 lb**  
**£9.99 kilo****Whole Boneless Pork  
Loins r/on or r/off****£1.99lb**  
**£4.39 Kilo****SPECIAL  
EASTER  
OFFER****5lb packs rindless  
Short Back Bacon****£7.99 pack****SPECIAL  
EASTER  
OFFER****172-176 High Street, Quarry Bank**  
**f 01384 633648****FIREPLACES  
WARM WELCOME**

- Marble Fireplaces
- Solid Wood Surrounds
- Made To Measure
- Valor Centre
- Flavell
- Portway Stoves
- Broseley Stoves
- Elgin & Hall Stockists
- Gas Stoves
- Electric Stoves
- Solid Fuel

**OPEN FOR  
BUSINESS  
AS USUAL**Packages, Marble Suites,  
including Gas/Electric Fire**£499 - £899**New products  
in store now,  
at the same great  
prices**OPENING TIMES:**Mon - Fri 10.30am - 4.00pm,  
Sat 10.00am - 4.00pm, Sun Closed**1 HIGH OAK, PENSNETT, DY5 4LA 01384 262622**  
**Many fireplaces / stoves on display**

safe

**Shear joy  
at stories  
by artist**

Amblecote History

THERE was a good attendance for the visit of Geoff Tristram as guest speaker.

Geoff is an extremely talented artist and author, with many claims to fame. His talks included many hilarious anecdotes of his life. He was born in Quarry Bank and from a young age he had a talent for playing the clarinet. Then one day he picked up a multi-coloured pen, his destiny was then decided.

From there he went on to paint and draw many portraits, landscapes and caricatures, also designing many musical album covers, the most famous being UB40's Signing Off.

One very memorable moment in his life was when he was asked to paint a caricature of Newcastle and England striker Alan Shearer. Geoff needed to take a photograph of him and was trying to plan a meeting with Alan in Newcastle. Around that time Wolves were playing Newcastle and Geoff had a phone call from Alan's agent to say the footballer could go to Geoff's home in Stourbridge to get the photographs taken.

Not long after that, to Geoff's delight there was Alan Shearer standing on his doorstep! A kickaround in Geoff's back garden followed - to the amazement of all the neighbours looking over the garden fence. This was just one of many great stories. Also worth a mention is that is outstanding pictures that are used for the famous Ravensburger Jigsaws.

**A reminder of how  
times have changed****Terry Church, flanked by Pauline Handley and Brenda Adkin****Dudley South Ladies  
Luncheon Club**

AT the February meeting co-chairman Pauline Handley welcomed 32 members and two visitors Una Tromans and Betty Ross for a three-course lunch, the AGM and to hear speaker Terry Church about his early memories of living in Wall Heath and Kingswinford.

Pauline was delighted to welcome volunteer Pauline Berrington on to the committee, but felt it was time for herself to step down due to on-going medical problems. She was presented with flowers as a thank you for her efforts.

Retiring after three years as president, Brenda Adkin was congratulated and also given flowers. Long-standing and loyal member Bessie Waters accepted the presidency for the next three years. Ann Rogers will continue as chairman.

The speaker was a real tonic and had everyone reminiscing about how things used to be at school and in the home and of pubs, shops and library closures - a reminder of how life had changed.

**Quiz night proves a lot of fun**

CHAIRMAN Chris Holton presided over the February meeting at St Peter's Centre, Pedmore, and welcomed 30 guests.

She gave the minutes of December's meeting, which were approved and signed as a true record. Treasurer Jill Attwood gave an up-to-date financial report and secretary Jean Williams announced she was organising a visit to the Rose theatre in Kidderminster to see Neighbourhood Watch.

Guild member Jacqueline Hill had organ-

**Grange E TWG**

ised a quiz with a wide variety of questions and photographs. The evening was a lot of fun and each member taking part received a small prize. Thanks were given to Jacqueline for her hard work.

Refreshments were served and the raffle drawn with three lucky winners. The sales table for March will have an Easter theme.

**Star Reader Travel**  
Hand picked holidays with you in mind**Your Chronicle**  
in association with  
**Omega.****Chicago**

Boasting six Tony Awards, two Olivier Awards and a Grammy, Chicago is returning to London to celebrate 21 years of standing ovations in style!

This dazzling production has thrilled audiences around the world since 1996, telling the story of nightclub singer Roxie Hart, her rival Velma Kelly and the slick defence lawyer Billy Flynn. With impressive choreography and a show-stopping score featuring the iconic songs Razzle Dazzle, Cell Block Tango and All That Jazz, Chicago is sure to entertain.

**London Theatre Break**

2 Days by Coach - Evening Show

**Departing Saturday 21 Apr**

from Dudley, Halesowen &amp; Stourbridge

**Price Includes...**

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London, with full English breakfast
- ✓ Chicago theatre ticket - Grand Circle (evening performance)
- ✓ Free time in London

**2 Days  
by Coach****only  
£109****Also Available** on this package and date**2 Days  
by Coach  
only  
£139****2 Days  
by Coach  
only  
£149****2 Days  
by Coach  
only  
£149**

Omega Holidays cannot be held responsible for the non-appearance of a particular actor/actress; no refunds will be given in this event. Whilst we always try to ensure that parties are seated together, very occasionally, it may be necessary for parties to be split. Couples are always seated together. Tours offered subject to availability. Errors and omissions excepted. Prices shown are per person, based on two people sharing a dbl/twin room. Single supplements apply.

For more information  
or to book, please call:**03300 130 051**Quote **OMRT**or visit online at: **omegabreaks.com/RT**033 numbers are free within inclusive  
minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.**ABTA**  
Travel with confidence  
ATOL No. 91762**DOULTON DOORS**  
Garage Doors & UPVC Windows & Doors**DD****Our Extensive Range of All Garage Doors  
Covers All Popular Brands****We have everything from  
Canopy to Side Hung styles****Wrought Iron Gates  
& Railings available****PROMOTIONAL OFFER**  
**CANOPY FRAME  
DOORS**  
Fitted from JUST  
**£700**  
subject to site  
survey**DD**Visit Us At **Doulton Trading Est., Doulton Road, Rowley Regis B65 8JG****Tel: 01384 413331 | 01902 628018****Freephone: 0800 0375179 Mobile: 07721 783291****www.doultondoors.co.uk****VISA**

# Radzi and co step up for Sport Relief at park

**WOLVERHAMPTON'S** Blue Peter presenter Radzi Chinyanganya was in Baggeridge Country Park for the latest stop on his mammoth sporting challenge.

Radzi, who also recently among the BBC team presenting the Winter Olympics in South Korea, returned to his home patch with fellow presenter Lindsey Russell for their Sport Relief challenge.

Called Mile-a-Thon it will see them run 26 individual miles with 26 schools across the country in four days.

They were joined by youngsters from Wolverhampton and Bilston Athletics Club at Baggeridge, near Sedgley.

Earlier in the day the pair did three laps of Molineux with pupils from Westcroft School and St Andrew's Primary School.

## Healthy

The are hoping to achieve more than one million steps by asking children to complete their own mile by running, walking or riding and then recording it on the Blue Peter website.

All the steps will be added up and it will be revealed whether they achieved the aim at 5.30pm next Thursday, March 22, for Blue Peter's Sport Relief special on CBBC.

It is all to encourage school children to stay fit and health by getting into the habit of regularly walking a mile a day.

The challenge was due to end in Oxford where the team were to cross the finish line where Sir Roger Bannister, who died on March 3, broke the four-minute mile back in 1954.

Radzi, who has been part of the Blue Peter team since 2013, said: "This



Radzi Chinyanganya and Lindsey Russell at Baggeridge with Sam Thurstfield, Maisie Fletcher, Emma Seeney, Logan Shields and Ella Green



Kitted out for adventure high up in the trees at Baggeridge Country Park

challenge is not about us, it is about supporting a charity and getting people involved and active. We wanted to be part of Sport Relief because this challenge is all about the steps - so anyone can get involved.

"I did not like Cross Country running when I was at school but this is

a great challenge to get involved in as it is one mile and you can take it at your own pace and you can do it on a scooter or you can cycle.

"We will be completing 26.2 miles over the four days - a full marathon - visiting a number of schools along the way."

## Buy and sell with ClassifiedAds



1

Visit our ClassifiedAds website  
[classifiedads.expressandstar.co.uk](http://classifiedads.expressandstar.co.uk)



2

Call our Classified sales team  
on 01902 317 878



3

Self Serve - Create your own advert  
in print and online - visit:  
[bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk](http://bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk)



## ClassifiedAds

BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

Brought to you by **Express & Star**

## I'm desperate for a NEW BATHROOM

I've tried lots of other reputable companies but their prices are too high! CAN YOU HELP?

## YES!! WE CAN HELP YOU

**EXAMPLE FULL  
JOB FOR  
£3950**

90x90 Quadrant  
Cubicle with low  
level tray  
15 SQM Wall Tiles  
Tiled Floor  
Replacement Shower  
New Basin & WC  
**EXTRA DISCOUNT  
FOR OUR RETIRED  
& DISABLED  
CUSTOMERS**

**DISABLED  
SPECIAL**

Are you having problems getting in and out of your bath? We will remove the bath and fit an easy access low level round, square or oblong cubicle and tile inside, supply a new replacement shower, a folding seat and grab rail

**ALL FOR ONLY  
£2150**

"Our company is owned and run by local tradesmen meaning the work is carried out properly and on time.

We strive to keep our prices as low as possible in order to keep within the budget of retired, disabled and working families which make up 95% of our customers."

**We do  
the lot in  
5 days**

**MARCH  
& APRIL  
FITTING DATES  
NOW BEING  
RESERVED**

**Extra discount for our retired  
& disabled customers**

**We offer a free no obligation  
home visit and on the spot price  
within 48 hrs of your call**

## YOUR CHOICE BATHROOMS



YOUR CHOICE...FOR A BETTER BATHROOM

Unit 4, Charterfield Shopping Centre,  
Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford DY6 7SH

**01384 287222**

Showroom also at

39 Lichfield Road, Wednesfield,  
Wolverhampton WV11 1TW **01902 861908**

**[www.yourchoice-bathrooms.co.uk](http://www.yourchoice-bathrooms.co.uk)**

**VAT FREE  
in Qualifying  
Cases  
Daytimes &  
weekend visits  
a pleasure**

**SHOWROOMS OPEN 9am-5pm 6 Days a Week**

# Could you be toying with salesroom success?

## ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

with John Ridgway of Perry & Phillips



I'VE written in this column before about vintage toys but as we have a number coming up in our next sale I thought we could re-visit the subject to look at what can affect their value.

It's all down to condition and how unusual or appealing the toys are, those having been kept in their original packaging or boxes netting the best prices at auction.

And, as with all vintage items, collectors have their current favourites - at present models relating to all of the Gerry Anderson TV series are very much sought after.

Thunderbirds, Stingray, Joe 90, Captain Scarlet, Fireball XL5 models are all very collectable and many can be found still in their boxes and in excellent condition.

You can find anything from Lady Penelope's lovely pink car to Captain Scarlet's pursuit vehicle and if you have any models relating to these hugely popular series it is well worth getting them valued for potential sale.

In the April auction we have a number of vintage model cars and some interesting model railway pieces - plus Action Man and a huge collection of Sindy items.

### Gripping

Action Man is the version with gripping hands and rather scary moveable eyes and he comes with a nice selection of clothing and equipment.

The Sindy range is extensive, we've got everything from her kitchen to her horse and most items are nicely packaged in their original boxes.

There are also some puppets and a wonderful selection of model soldiers, always a collector's favourite.

It's sometimes quite sad to be selling toys that have plainly not been played with, some in their original packaging have clearly never been used, but that pristine condition does make them much more saleable.

So have a look around to see what vintage toys may be lurking within your home and bring them in for valuation - they may well be worth selling!

**\*The next Perry and Phillips sale of antiques and collectibles will take place at the Mill Street saleroom, Low Town, Bridgnorth, on Tuesday, April 3, from 10.30am.**

Viewing is during the weekend and on the Monday prior to the sale and catalogues are available from the saleroom or online at [www.perryandphillips.co.uk](http://www.perryandphillips.co.uk). Newcomers to the auction should arrive in plenty of time to register and be allocated a bidding number and bids may be made (by prior arrangement) over the phone or left with the auctioneer.

**\*Perry and Phillips hold valuation days, for sale items only, every Wednesday from 10am until 4pm.**

**\*A new promotional film about Perry and Phillips Auctioneers can be found on our website - and for the very first time ever we will be offering a video preview! Again, this will be on our website.**



# Our nightwear is becoming more fashionable



Nightwear can be a fashion statement

HOW many of you change into your PJs when you get home from work or spend a whole day at the weekend in your comfy, under a blanket watching films?

Nightwear, leisurewear and loungewear is so popular now and the shops are full of so much choice, it is no wonder we often spot someone in their pink pyjamas or superman onesie and slippers in the supermarket or collecting the children from school.

I am soon to be staying in a country cottage for the weekend for a friend's hen party. Dress code for Friday night is PJs and we all have the same matching set, apart from the bride-to-be who has personalised shorts and T-shirt.

We will plod around in complete comfort, in our luxury surroundings, prosecco in hand and the overnight case packed with the most comfortable clothing I can find.

Most of the top designers have a range of nightwear, stylish cotton or silk printed and woven garments for men and women, branding clearly seen on logoed elastics, ribbons and elaborate embroidery, comfort a priority and a high price tag.

## STYLE FOCUS

with Janet Timmis



It is only in recent years we have seen the emergence of loungewear, "pyjamas to be seen in" ([www.jackwills.com](http://www.jackwills.com))

Some of the fabrics are more sportswear than nightwear but their technical abilities practical for a good nights sleep. Supersoft polyester mesh and four-way stretch leggings allow for movement. There are garments to help night sweats in menopausal women ([www.eesteemmanchester.com](http://www.eesteemmanchester.com)), the wicking fabrics used in our top athletes clothing, wicking away perspiration in a different type of product.

Children can go off to bed dressed as a super hero or Disney princess ([www.disney-store.co.uk](http://www.disney-store.co.uk)) and birthdays involve a pyjama party sleep over, babies sleep soundly in cute animal prints and sleeping bags with shoulder straps.

The choice of fleece dressing gown is almost

overwhelming, short, long, hooded, buttoned, super soft, the list goes on and then there is the onesie in lightweight jersey, sweat shirt-ing or fur fabric.

In the 1940s and 1950s movie starlets, on screen, wore opulent, elegant floating satin nightdresses and gowns, trimmed with feathers, frills and lace.

They wore full make up and their hair was perfect.

We have recently seen the heeled and jewelled fluffy mules seen in these films revisited as a trend item. In fact, the reality was hair nets to keep curls in place, hand knitted bed jackets, socks and a buttoned front full-length cotton night gown.

We wear slippers that look like Uggs, Mahabis with removable outdoor soles and Crocs. As time moves on our nightwear becomes more accepted during the day.

Will there be a time we can wear it to work as well?

Visit [www.jfflexclusive.com](http://www.jfflexclusive.com),  
[www.jffgarmentsolutions.co.uk](http://www.jffgarmentsolutions.co.uk)  
Follow: [jflifeandloves on tumblr](https://www.tumblr.com/jflifeandloves)



Eating more turmeric can ward off disease and boost your mood



Turmeric in its natural form - it is usually ground into a powder

# Why therapeutic turmeric really is the spice of life



It can be added to soups and curries

**SPICY, golden and warm in flavour, turmeric's therapeutic properties can ward off flu and boost your mood.**

Like avocados, kale and chia seeds before it, turmeric is one of those 'cure-all' ingredients that seems to have blown up out of nowhere.

Scroll through any millennial's Instagram feed and you'll likely spot a few riffs on the golden wonder spice; turmeric lattes, spicy rice, aromatic golden soup. According to a recent report by Waitrose, it's even overtaken cinnamon as the most popular spice in our kitchen cupboards, while Google searches for it are up 75 per cent in the last five years.

This potent plant of the ginger family grows wild in the forests of Southeast Asia, and has long been a staple in Pakistani, Indian, Persian and Thai diets.

But is it just a fad or are there actual benefits to the wonder spice? Here, we've found some science-backed reasons why you should tap into its healing potential.

### IT DECREASES INFLAMMATION

We're all probably a little too familiar with joint pain, with arthritis affecting about 10 million people in the UK. Researchers have found that curcumin, the bright yellow

### Report by Liz Connor

chemical produced by turmeric, is capable of interacting with a variety of molecules involved in inflammation, easing swelling, aches and pains in the joints and muscles. In fact, a study published in the National Center for Biotechnology Information found that curcumin may be just as effective as aspirin and ibuprofen at suppressing the body's inflammatory response.

### IT HAS ANTIOXIDANT EFFECTS

Antioxidants are pretty important substances; they protect your cells against the effects of free radicals - unpaired electrons that scavenge the body to seek out other electrons so they can become a pair. The damage caused by free radicals has been linked to premature ageing, a host of neurodegenerative diseases, and even cancer. As well as bolstering the body's natural antioxidant function by increasing glutathione levels, studies have found curcumin's molecular structure can even neutralise harmful free radicals in the body.

### IT CAN KEEP THE HEART HEALTHY

Heart and circulatory disease causes more than a quarter of all deaths in the UK; that's nearly 160,000 deaths each year at an average of one death every three minutes. Multiple studies have found that the

yellow pigment in turmeric root can help to maintain the function of the interior lining of your blood vessels. One study published in the Nutrition Research journal in 2012 even found that curcumin may be as effective in improving vascular function in post-menopausal women as a moderate exercise routine.

### IT REDUCES THE SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION

As well as being good for your heart and your joints, turmeric could also help to improve your mood. Research has shown that curcumin has a similar effect as antidepressants on patients suffering from depression, mood swings and anxiety, and studies on mice found that daily doses of turmeric can even increase the amount of happy hormones (serotonin and dopamine) in the brain.

### IT BOOSTS IMMUNITY

Thanks to its lipopolysaccharide content, turmeric can help stimulate the body's immune system, helping you to avoid cold, flu and coughs. Its antibacterial, antiviral and anti-fungal agents also help to bolster immunity during the winter months. With winter clinging on a little longer than usual this year, try switching your morning coffee for a turmeric tea, to help give your immune system an extra boost.

# Orchestra tunes up to play for women's charity



Alan Blower, John Cartwright, Barry Wheeler, Deborah Slater and Julie Billingham ahead of Halesowen Orchestra's fundraiser. **CLASSICAL music from three famous composers will be performed at a fundraiser on Saturday.**

Halesowen Orchestra will be playing Felix Mendelssohn's *Fingals Cave*, Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No 7* and Maria von Weber's *Bassoon Concerto*.

The concert will take place at Halesowen's Cornbow Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

The event will raise money for Black Country Women's Aid, an independent charity which supports survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence in the West Midlands.

## Supported

Black Country Women's Aid, formerly known as Sandwell Women's Aid, has been running for more than 30 years and has supported more than 8,000 people.

The concert is being held in asso-

ciation with Halesowen and Rowley Regis Rotary club. A spokesman for the orchestra, which has been running for more than 30 years, said: "As 2018 is the year of the bassoon, we are delighted to have talented bassoon player Richard Tattam as our soloist."

Halesowen Orchestra, boasts about 40 regular players serving Halesowen and the west of Birmingham.

Tickets for this month's Beethoven's Seventh concert are priced at £10, available at the door or by calling 0121 550 0956.

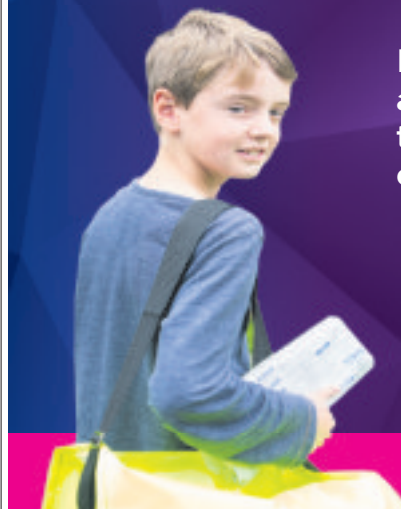
# Recruiting

Reliable people to deliver  
This Chronicle Newspapers,  
Magazines and Leaflets.



If you are over 13 years of age and would like the opportunity to earn some extra money contact us with:

- YOUR NAME
- DATE OF BIRTH
- ADDRESS
- TELEPHONE NUMBER



Call 01902 319990 or email:  
[marie.darling@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:marie.darling@expressandstar.co.uk)

In association with  
**CHRONICLE**



## DESIGNED | PLANNED | INSTALLED

## THE ONE STOP SHOPPING | EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR NEW KITCHEN / BATHROOM AND BEDROOM

**Serenity**  
KITCHENS &  
BATHROOMS



**COME AND VISIT  
US IN STORE TODAY**



## EXAMPLE JOB

- Shower enclosure or bath
- New shower/basin/wc
- 15 sqm wall and floor tiling
- Debris removed

Only **£3850.00**



## DISABILITY SPECIAL OFFER

We have a good history of working with clients who have trouble using their bath

- New shower and folding seat and grab rail
- Receive a new easy access shower
- Tiled inside

Only **£2150.00**

**ageUK** RECOMMENDED

**DUDLEY** Dawley Trading Estate | Stallings Lane |  
Kingswinford | DY6 7AP

**Call us on 01384 279 997**

Email: [info@serenitykitchensbathrooms.co.uk](mailto:info@serenitykitchensbathrooms.co.uk)

[www.serenitykitchensbathrooms.co.uk](http://www.serenitykitchensbathrooms.co.uk)

**OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK | SUNDAY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

# Tasks lie in wait to help wake garden for spring

**GREEN-FINGERED** Brits are being urged to set their seasonal alarm clocks and use the last few days of winter as the perfect opportunity to begin waking up their garden.

The horticulture experts at BillyOh.com said now is the perfect time to begin gently awakening your garden from its winter slumber and have compiled some top tips to help ambitious gardeners embark on a new growing adventure.

Before plant enthusiasts are able to jump into placing new flowers and shrubs, a number of general yard tasks must be undertaken to ensure gardens are prepped, organised and equipped to make the most of the blooming season.

From cleaning up your garden tools and tracking down pesky pests to pruning shrubs and trees and making a detailed plan for planting, these are the jobs you should be undertaking now in order to enjoy a successful and flourishing garden come spring.

A spokesman for BillyOh.com said: "If you're a gardening novice or if you're simply just itching to get started on your garden this year, you might think that you can just leave it 'til the last minute before rushing in to get everything done while in the throes of spring."

"But Rome wasn't built in a day, and there are certain preparations you should be making now in order to really get the most out of your garden during blooming season."

"As well as detailing some of the key jobs you should be starting as spring rolls around, we've also included a list of plants you should consider planting this year to create the ultimate garden haven."

## YARD TASKS

### 1. Clean up your yard or garden

Spend some time doing some general cleaning and tidying jobs by removing leaves and debris from your lawn, taking note of areas that need reseeded. If you have perennials from last year, cut down foliage and reserve it for your compost bin. Divide clumped perennials for later replanting or sharing with friends. You can also start fixing fences, gates and trellis so you'll have more time focusing on your plants after tidying up.



### 2. Wash and polish your garden tools

Your tools will likely need some TLC after months of non-use and hiding in the garden shed or basement. Shears and hand pruners may have accumulated dirt that, if left unwashed, could infect your newly-pruned plants. Almost all tools are easier to work with when cleaned and sharpened so take the time to hone

those spades, trowels and hoes with a file and apply lubricating oil.

### 3. Prune shrubs and trees

If you haven't got around to pruning your trees before or during winter, now is the best time to do so. Remove damaged, dead and diseased branches, but take note whether a certain plant is best pruned before spring growth or right after flowering.

Pruning fruit trees is best done in late winter or early spring. Also take time to thin dead foliage now before new growth begins and thinning becomes too difficult.

### 4. Track down garden pests

Slugs, snails, aphids and larvae may have been sheltering in the crowns or flip sides of your plants for the winter. Go after these hibernating pests before putting in new plants. There's a slew of pest control materials and methods to choose from but it's best to start with more natural means like homemade remedies or beneficial insects that will prey on the harmful ones.

### 5. Prepare the beds and reinvigorate the soil

It's a lot easier to pull out weeds now so go through it and rake the mulch that remained on the bed over the winter. But how will you know if your soil is ready for gardening since winter weather takes a hard toll on garden soil? An easy guide is to grab a handful of soil, squeeze it tightly, then open your fist. The soil should crumble instead of forming clumps. Take a soil test for pH level if necessary and enrich accordingly – add dolomitic lime to raise pH or sulphur to lower pH. Add in some compost or well-rotted manure too, using a spading fork to mix in everything perfectly well.

# Be smart and think twice over new meters



Act smart – and do your research on the new meters

HOUSEHOLDERS should think twice before rushing in to have a new smart meter installed in their home.

That's the advice from green energy expert Ron Fox who said the main disadvantage is that many of them will stop working if residents, wanting to reduce their bills, swap suppliers.

He said there were many advantages as they are internet-connected devices puts consumers in charge of their energy use by displaying the amount and cost of fuel usage.

Also they put a stop to estimated bills by sending automatic bills to the energy supplier and are designed to save the average householder £47 a year.

"But that major problem of losing the smart functionality outweighs the advantages and people should reject the first generation meters and wait for the technology to improve," said Mr Fox.

The trouble is that the Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification (Smets 2), the most advanced meters, have been delayed by technical issues and energy companies have been told to continue installing older Smets 1 devices as the Government wants to put 50 million meters in by 2020 in an £11 billion initiative.

Mr Fox said: "Don't be pressurized into having a smart meter."

"You can reject having one, but the problem comes when your old meter is broken and needs replacing."

"Then the supplier is allowed to install a smart meter in "dumb" mode which means it works like the traditional, non-smart gas and electricity me-

ters without the latest technology, but you can still change energy supplier."

Already 8.6 million smart meters have been installed in the UK but \$66,000 of them are now working on "dumb" mode only.

However, the consumer body Which? said 40 per cent of people with a smart meter are dissatisfied with it.

Another serious worry is that some experts fear smart meters may be hacked and energy supplies could be disrupted in a terrorist attack.

Government research has shown that up to six million homes are thinking of rejecting them because of hacking and data protection fears.

## Spiralling

Meanwhile, energy companies are concerned with the spiralling costs of the project and some may use it as an excuse to put up prices for consumers.

Now a Government spokesperson is reported to have promised that the Smets 1 meters will be upgraded by the end of this year and will work efficiently regardless of the energy provider and that Smets 2 will soon be ready to install.

"The sooner the technology is improved the better," said Mr Fox, of Noreus Ltd at Keele, Staffordshire. "You don't buy modern gadgets and expect to have to replace them after a few months."

"But that is what is happening with these smart meters if you change supplier. Householders should expect them to be installed properly and work consistently whichever energy company they use."

# List of chores is growing as Beast takes its leave

## ROSS UNDERWOOD

Head Gardener at Hodnet Hall



**ALTHOUGH** we have passed the first meteorological day of spring the recent icy blast brought by the so-called "Beast from the East" might have temporarily fooled us into thinking otherwise.

Yet the snow and sub-zero temperatures have provided only a brief reprieve to the gardener. The list of gardening jobs will lengthen as the days stretch out and it is important to get on top of them.

It is time to order or buy your seed potatoes right away as they will need time to chit before they are planted out. It doesn't really matter how you do this and I prefer to put them in egg boxes on a window ledge. It is important to keep the frost away from earlies which can be planted out by the end of the month so cover any shoots with fleece or straw.

Onions and shallots can also be planted out in a sunny well drained spot. Again, this should be done towards the back end of the month when temperatures are potentially going to have risen more evenly. The young sets should be buried up to their necks and protected from marauding birds especially pigeons which like to pull them up.

Finish your pruning now if you haven't done it already. As temperatures rise so does the sap and any shrubs or climbers such as roses, Buddleja, and summer flowering clematis will waste valuable energy putting out new growth only for you to snip it off later.

It is also getting to the end of the time when deciduous or evergreen hedges should be cut as birds will be thinking of nesting. More delicate evergreens like box can be held over until April as they can struggle to recover from pruning if the weather is too cold.

Shrubs which flower in winter or early spring and summer (i.e. before June) such as winter Jasmine, Deutzia or Forsythia should have the old growth thinned by a third. This is because they flower on wood grown the previous season. Leave on enough older growth to provide flowers for this year while allowing new growth to take the place of the old and give flowers for next year.

Slugs and snails will be waiting to take advantage of the new growth so don't delay



Finish your pruning now if you haven't done so already, Ross advises



Plant shallots, onions and potatoes in a sunny and well drained spot



Chit seed potatoes before planting them

in using control measures though apply them judiciously in order to avoid harming wildlife and especially bird life.

Many will also have been looking covetously at the lawn as a fresh cut can do so much to tidy up a garden. It is important not to do more harm than good so choose

a dry day and set your blades high to make the first cut. You are aiming to gently encourage the sward to thicken up rather than beating it into submission. Never remove more than a quarter of the total length of the grass blades. For anybody wishing to start a new lawn the ground should be pre-

pared now by digging and forking over to reduce the soil to a fine tilth. Hold off laying turf if you can or sowing seed as germination will be better once the soil temperature has risen more consistently above 6C.

All in all there is plenty to get on with though March should be welcomed by all.



## FIVE MINUTES WITH THE STRANGLERS INSIDE

**THEATRE + MUSIC + TV LISTINGS + PUZZLES**

### Rehearsal for Murder

Adapted by D.D. Brooke  
From the TV play by:  
Richard Levinson & William Link

Stourbridge Theatre Company



When his leading lady (and fiancée) Monica Welles is found dead from an apparent suicide after the opening night of her West End stage debut, playwright Alex Dennison is left heartbroken. On the first anniversary of her death, he gathers the cast and crew from that ill-fated night in the same West End theatre, ostensibly to read a new play he is working on, a mystery in which a famous actress is killed. As the reading progresses, the scenes seem to the cast to be uncomfortably close to actual encounters they might have had with Monica. When pressed, Alex finally reveals that he believes that Monica was murdered, and that someone at the theatre is her killer.....

Directed by **Sandra Griswold**

**Stourbridge Town Hall 22nd - 24th March 2018 at 7.30pm**

**Tickets: £10.000 each Concessions £8.00**

From; The French Deli, 1 Coventry Street, Stourbridge or Telephone 0333 666 3366 or [www.stourbridgetheatre.co.uk](http://www.stourbridgetheatre.co.uk)

# They're still just like nothing on Earth

**P**unk icons The Stranglers are back on the road following the sell-out success of last year's Black and White Tour. They are taking their Classic Collection around the UK, to coincide with the planned re-release of the entire Stranglers studio album catalogue from 1977-82.

Fans can look forward to a slew of greatest hits when the band headline Birmingham's O2 Academy on Saturday, March 17. It's a show that The Stranglers are also looking forward to.

Bassist Jean-Jacques Burnel says: "We've had some amazing times in the Black Country and Birmingham and around and about. We always have a great time when we're on the road and it's always sold out when we play in Brum. Our drummer, Jim, lives in that neck of the woods.

"We've got a very loyal audience but there's also a sense of renewal of the audience. People who've grown up with us and remember times past are still there.

"They remember the problems of us being a young punk band. It seems to be that for some reason a lot of teenagers are also starting to check us out over the past 10 years. You know, with the last three albums, people have really picked up on us again.

"Also, all the bad press that we had all those years ago seems to be a badge of honour because everything is so cynical and phoney these days. All the bad times are now a badge of honour. It's funny. We were the threat to western civilisation and morality and now we're seen as a healthy thing because the music scene is all so sterile."

Drawing from an expansive and impressive catalogue that spans some 40 years, The Stranglers will enthral audiences with an exciting mix of material, all bearing the distinctive signature style of this most enduring of British bands; driving rhythms, anthemic melodies, quirky time signatures and occasional dark humour, held together by those trademark rumbling bass lines and swirling keyboards.

## WAVE

The Stranglers are riding high on the crest of a resurgent wave of popularity. They continue to out-rock many on the live circuit, including much younger bands, and their existing large and loyal fan base has swelled in recent years as new converts join the ranks.

With record-breaking, sell-out shows and festival appearances throughout the UK and the rest of the world, public demand to hear and see the group has never been so high; true testament to their considerable musical talent and the enduring quality of their songs.

JJ says it's been a struggle and they're thrilled to be winning the war.

"Well, we've been used to wars from day one. We didn't have a ready-made audience in the very early days. Even when we were playing pubs we were having confrontations with the landlord calling the police to pull the plug.

"In the very early days, people were also getting offended by what we were playing. We had people try to get on stage and whack us. We had, once, an agent who booked us for one show. They booked us for a Young Conservatives night in Purley, in South London.

"We were dressed in rags and tatters and there were all these people in smoking jackets and

No more heroes – The Stranglers are heading to Birmingham



suits and bow ties. It was evidently obvious that we weren't going to get on with each other.

"Jet went on stage and said you're not going to like us and there was a bit of language. So one guy came up on stage with a bow tie but we kicked him off stage and 400 people left the hall, leaving five who thought we were brilliant. I think we did play for the five to get our fee."

JJ is pleased that the band's recorded output from an imperious late 1970s and early 1980s is being re-aired.

"It was a very intense and fast period from having overnight been the pariahs and then breaking all kinds of records and selling records and having an audience who wanted to see us rather than murder us. It was very creative for us back then. We were just writing all the time.

"There was pent up frustration

*The bad press that we had all those years ago is a badge of honour*

and energy and we wanted to explore our potential. We weren't satisfied. Suddenly we had a bit of a hit, we wanted to go further. We wanted to see what we could as artists, what we could do. As our experiences expanded and our horizon, so did our attempts to try and improve.

"In the first 18 months we had three albums out, all top three. The first three years were really slow and doubts crept into our mind about doing the right thing. Then things happened suddenly but overnight it changed. We were living off Paxo sage and onion stuffing when no girlfriend meant no food or drink."

Remarkably, the band are more popular than ever. And they have offers to tour the world. The band pick and choose what they want to do – turning down things that are too much bother.

"We have to decide whether we want to go somewhere. Every time we turn down the USA they double the offer. There are a few places we're not too keen on going to. The Americans want you to queue up for the American embassy and be interrogated about why we want to go there. You can't make a joke. So we don't accept the offers."

Andy Richardson

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.



**ALL YOU CAN EAT  
BUFFET STYLE BREAKFAST**

Now being served 7 days a week  
by popular demand 8am till 11am

**Half Price Mondays 5 till 8 on  
a selection of main meals**

**WHAT'S ON**



**Friday Nights Karaoke and  
Disco with Danny Sun**

Sat 17/3 **Mulligan & Mulligan**

Sat 24/3 **Eastwood**

Sat 31/3 **Happy Accident**

Sat 7/4 **Izzy the Push**

Sat 14/4 **The Dynamix**

Sat 21/4 **The Britannia Beast**



383 Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill DY5 3LQ

Tel: 01384 76066



Edgelarks Photo: Elly Lucas



## Life on the Edge with one of the UK's top folk duos

One of Britain's leading folk music duos are performing at a village church on the edge of the Black Country this weekend.

Edgelarks, who are Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin, have just received their third nomination in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. They won the top duo award in 2014 and were nominated again in 2016.

The pair's new project takes the roots of their previous work – from the traditional musics of the British Isles to Indian classical slide guitar and Phillip's stomping beatbox harmonica – and adds a strong stem of original writing.

Edgelarks, which was one of MOJO's top ten folk albums of 2017, is Phillip and Hannah's most innovative work to date. As well as being their fourth

studio album, it also marks the genesis of a brand new band name.

From recording their first album, *Singing the Bones*, at home in their living room in the dead of night, they have gone on to produce three more records – *Mynd*, *Live in Calstock and Watershed* – each time refining the process and honing their production skills.

Edgelarks appropriately will be performing near Kinver Edge, at St Peter's Church in Kinver, on Saturday at 8pm. Tickets cost £13. See [www.edgelarks.co.uk](http://www.edgelarks.co.uk) or call 07503 191825 for details.

But fans of Irish folk will no doubt be at Birmingham Town Hall that night for *The Dublin Legends* – Sean Cannon, Eamonn Campbell, Paul Watchorn and Gerry O'Connor – playing favourites by The Dubliners.

## COMMERCIAL FEATURE



## Bringing Delhi to Brierley Hill

**After recently having a refurbishment, myself and my colleague had the pleasure of experiencing the fine dining experience at Delhi Divan.**

Firstly being warmly welcomed by Shan the Manager who couldn't do enough for us, constantly making sure our drinks were never empty, serving us delicious cocktails. The restaurant itself is superbly refreshing with lovely decor and a beautiful bar area, having been installed after the refurbishment.

We started with Popadoms which were accompanied with an amazing

sauce and very tasty sweet onion. Followed by our starters of Onion Bhaji's and Chicken Tikka which were very appetising leaving us excited for the Main course, which when come didn't disappoint. Portion sizes were very generous and just as the starters were just as delicious.

As we were there the restaurant started to fill up but this didn't affect the level of service we received or none of the other guests there. I have to say the service was fantastic and staff always had smiles on their faces even though they were so busy. Even the Chef came out to talk to us which

was a nice touch. Overall this was a fantastic meal at very competitive prices and I wouldn't hesitate to recommend or go back myself.

They accommodate to all groups and sizes, catering for private functions, business meetings and conferences also having the restaurant available for private hire from 30-90 people. They have their own website and facebook so you can keep up to date with all upcoming events and offers.

**Get yourselves down there for a treat!!**

## Crying for Evita as blockbuster returns



Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Evita* is thrilling audiences once again across the UK.

Telling the story of Eva Peron, wife of former Argentine dictator Juan Peron, *Evita* follows Eva's journey from humble beginnings through to extraordinary wealth, power and iconic status.

Madalena Alberto returns to the role of Eva, for which she received critical acclaim in the 2014 West End revival. Her other credits include the role of Fantine in the 25th anniversary production of *Les Misérables*.

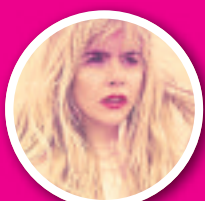
*Evita* is one of the most popular musicals including the songs *Don't Cry For Me Argentina*, *On This Night of a Thousand Stars*, *You Must Love Me* and *Another Suitcase in Another Hall*.

Other theatre highlights to look out for include comic alternative history from *Told By An Idiot* with Napoleon Disrobed at Birmingham Rep's studio theatre *The Door* from tonight (Thursday) to Saturday. At Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre are masked drama group *Vamos Theatre* with *A Brave Face* tonight and tomorrow, and comedy chaos for all the family with *The 4 Clowns of the Apocalypse* on Tuesday.

Ex-Strictly Come Dancing pro Brendan Cole brings his *All Night Long* show to Symphony Hall in Birmingham tomorrow (Friday) and Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre on Tuesday. Contemporary dance fans will head to Birmingham Hippodrome on Friday and Saturday for Ballet British Columbia, Canada's leading modern dance company. There will be Asian dance at Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre on Saturday when Jaivant Patel Dance present *Holi: Basant Ke Rang*, a celebration of spring dedicated to the memory of Wolverhampton Mayor Elias Mattu.

## Paloma on way to the Genting

POP star Paloma Faith returns to the West Midlands following the success of her fourth album, *The Architect*, with a concert at the Genting Arena on Wednesday, March 13. Hackney-born Paloma, 36, who recently became a mother, is known for hits *Chasing*, *Only Love Can Hurt Like This*, *Picking Up The Pieces*, *New York, New York*, *Never Tear Us Apart*, *Crybaby* and *Stone Cold Sober*. Support from XamVolo. Paloma is back for Forest Live at Cannock Chase on June 29.



## 'Elvis' back in the building, 50 years on

Fifty years ago Elvis Presley's career was revived by the '68 Comeback Special, a one-off television show aired by American network NBC, and to celebrate that milestone theatre impresario Bill Kenwright brings tribute show *This Is Elvis* to Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre.

From Monday to Saturday, the touring show will recreate that classic concert and the drama leading up to it with award-winning tribute artist Steve Michaels in the role of Elvis. Steve has played alongside some of Elvis Presley's iconic band mates including the extraordinary Jordanaires and the soulful voices of the Sweet Inspirations. *This Is Elvis* includes such hits as *Trouble*, *Heartbreak Hotel*, *Blue Suede Shoes*, *Hound Dog*, *Jailhouse Rock*, *In The Ghetto* and *Suspicious Minds*.

## SPECIAL OFFERS FOR EVERY WEDNESDAY AND SUNDAY

DINE IN ONLY

**3 COURSE (SUNDAYS)**

*Your Choice of: Starter, Main Course and a Vegetable Side Dish served with Rice or Naan Bread from our A La Carte Menu.*

**£8.95**

**4 COURSE (WEDNESDAYS)**

*Your Choice of: Starter, Main Course and a Vegetable Side Dish served with Rice or Naan Bread from our A La Carte Menu.*

**£9.95**

£5 Off Dine in, take away and delivery  
When you spend £25 or more  
T's & C's Apply

OPENING HOURS:

Sunday-Thursday: 5.30pm till 11.30pm  
Friday-Saturday: 5.30pm till 1.00am

FREE DELIVERY:

within 3 mile radius order over £10.00  
We aim to deliver within 45 minutes

**WELCOME TO BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS.**

148 High Street, Brierley Hill, DY5 3BP

t: 01384 77 150 | [w:delhidivanbrierleyhill.co.uk](http://w:delhidivanbrierleyhill.co.uk)

CHOICE



Will.i.am

**The Voice UK (ITV, 8.30pm)**  
It's the first of the knockout shows as 12 acts sing for a place in the semi-finals. Coaches Jennifer Hudson, Will.i.am, Tom Jones and Olly Murs can pick only one act from their teams to progress in the competition, so there are some tough decisions to make. Helping them are guests Craig David, members of the Black Eyed Peas, Kylie Minogue, Leona Lewis and The Voice UK's reigning champion, Mo'Nique.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Classic Mary Berry. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** MasterChef. (R) **2.15** MasterChef. (R) **3.15** MasterChef. (R) **3.45** Wanted Down Under Revisited. **4.30** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Wales v France (Kick-off 5.00pm). **7.00** BBC News. **7.10** Regional Programme. **7.20** **Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman welcome Sam Nixon and Mark Rhodes, Ellie Taylor and Milton Jones, Jay Rayner and Thomasina Miers, and Paul Martin and Sara Pascoe to the general knowledge quiz. The famous faces must try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public. **8.10** **Casualty.** Rash's new-found confidence is tested when he treats a prisoner, who also leads Gem into danger. Bea goes up against snarky F1 Eddie for a place on a coveted training course. **9.00** **Troy: Fall of a City.** Paris finds himself on the run as a fugitive, hunted by Greek forces intent on avenging the slight that sparked the flames of war. Seeking a safe refuge, he returns to his shepherd roots and the hills where he grew up. Meanwhile, back in Troy, Helen is left without a single ally as Pandarus's investigation gathers momentum, and the Trojans try to exploit divisions among the Greeks. Historical epic, starring Louis Hunter, Jonas Armstrong, Bella Dayne, David Threlfall, David Gyasi and Joseph Mawle. **10.00** BBC News; Weather.; National Lottery Update. **10.20** **Match of the Day.** Highlights of Bournemouth v West Bromwich Albion, Huddersfield Town v Crystal Palace, Stoke City v Everton and Liverpool v Watford in the Premier League. **11.20** **MOTD: FA Cup Highlights.** Highlights of Swansea City v Tottenham Hotspur at the Liberty Stadium and Manchester United v Brighton & Hove Albion at Old Trafford. **11.50** **Film: Gambit.** (2012) Comedy remake, starring Colin Firth, Cameron Diaz and Alan Rickman. **1.10** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.15** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.10** The Wonder of Animals. (R) **6.40** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. (R) **7.10** The Pets Factor. **7.30** The Designers. **8.00** Absolute Genius: Monster Builds. **8.30** Beyond Bionic. **9.00** Robot Wars. (R) **10.00** Gorilla Family and Me. (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **11.35** Cats v Dogs: Which Is Best? (R) **12.35** Orson Welles: Talking Pictures. (R) **1.20** **Film: Waterloo.** (1970) **3.30** Me and My Dog: The Ultimate Contest. (R) **4.30** Final Score. **5.30** The Repair Shop. (R) **6.00** **Hugh's Wild West.** Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall explores the Somerset Levels, where he visits Worthy Farm, home to Glastonbury Festival, before heading to the Secret World Rescue Centre. **7.00** **Amazing Hotels: Life Beyond the Lobby.** Giles Coren and Monica Galletti head to the foothills of the Swiss Alps to experience health and wellness tourism at the Grand Resort Bad Ragaz. (R) **8.00** **David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities.** The naturalist investigates whether animals and plants have developed an awareness of mathematics, including bamboos that flower exactly the same around the world. **8.30** **Dad's Army.** Mainwaring and the platoon are asked to provide a guard of honour for a train carrying George VI passing through Walmington-on-Sea. (R) **9.00** **Film: Suite Francaise.** (2014) Premiere. Passion develops between a woman and the Nazi officer stationed in her home during Germany's occupation of France. Second World War drama, starring Kristin Scott Thomas. **10.40** **Performance Live: Winged Bull in the Elephant Case.** An immersive performance, combining dance choreographed by Wayne McGregor and others with music and spoken word, filmed underground and in London's National Gallery. **11.10** **Film: Defiance.** (2008) Three Jewish brothers escape into the woods during the 1939 Nazi invasion of Poland, and launch a series of guerrilla attacks on German forces. As word of their actions spreads, other refugees join them to form a larger resistance movement. Second World War drama, starring Daniel Craig. **1.15** Civilisations. (R) **2.15** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Story: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: The Bagel and Becky Show. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Be Cool, Scooby-Doo! (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishfart. (R) **9.25** James Martin's Saturday Morning. **11.20** Britain's Brightest Family. (R) **11.50** ITV News; Weather. **12.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Italy v Scotland (Kick-off 12.30pm). **2.25** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. England v Ireland (Kick-off 2.45pm). **5.00** The Chase. (R) **6.00** ITV News; Weather. **6.15** **Regional Programme;** Weather. **6.30** **New You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, including footage of a golfer being surprised by an alligator, and a child being fired into a belfry. **7.00** **Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.** George Ezra opens the show with a performance of his new hit, as well as joining Ant and Dec on stage for the End of The Show Show. Ashley and Jordan Banjo from dance troupe Diversity are pushed to their limits in the return of Get Out Of My Ear! Stephen Mulhern and Scarlett Moffatt join in the fun, and another player gets the chance to Win the Aids. **8.30** **The Voice UK.** The first of the knockout shows as 12 acts sing for a place in the semi-finals. Guests include Craig David, members of the Black Eyed Peas and Kylie Minogue. **10.30** ITV News; Weather. **10.45** **Film: Fast & Furious.** (2009) News of a friend's murder brings international fugitive Dominic Toretto back to his home city of Los Angeles in search of revenge. It is not long before his pursuit leads him to cross paths with FBI agent Brian O'Conner, and despite their hostile feelings toward each other, the pair work together to bring down those responsible. Thriller sequel, starring Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Michelle Rodriguez and Jordana Brewster. **12.45** Play to the Whistle. (R) **1.30** Jackpot247. **3.00** Babushka. (R)

CHANNEL 4

**6.00** Winter Paralympics Live. **8.00** Winter Paralympics Breakfast. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.25** The Simpsons. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** **Film:** Casper. (1995) Supernatural family comedy, starring Christina Ricci. **3.20** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. (R) **4.25** The Secret Life of the Zoo. (R) **5.30** Winter Paralympics Today. **6.30** **Channel 4 News.** **7.00** **Penelope Keith's Coastal Villages.** The actress discovers the idyllic coastal villages of East Anglia. She travels by train to the Edwardian holiday resort of Weybourne, and goes dredging at Cleve next the Sea. Penelope also hears a scandalous take in Suffolk, and heads to Thorpness, Suffolk, to visit a village inspired by the tale of Peter Pan. Finally, she takes in the ancient settlement of Dunwich and ends her journey at Aust one was. **8.00** **Britain at Low Tide.** Tori Herridge explores the Severn Estuary, visiting the site of a medieval village that disappeared into the sea and finding out how important the ferry crossing at Aust once was. **9.00** **Film: Fantastic Four.** (2015) Premiere. A gifted young scientist joins a secret project researching inter-dimensional travel, and return from a journey to another world granted superhuman powers. Their abilities make them the only hope for Earth's survival when a colleague who was lost on their expedition returns to wreak vengeance. Superhero adventure, starring Miles Teller, Michael B. Jordan, Kate Mara and Jamie Bell. **10.55** **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jon Richardson and Michelle Wolf take on guest captain Jonathan Ross with Johnny Vegas, while three-man comedy act Pappy's helps out in Dictionary Corner. Last in the series. (R) **11.55** **The Inbetweeners.** The friends prepare for their exams. Simon makes progress with Carl by helping her revise, and the gang members get together to reminisce about the past year. Last in the series. (R) **12.30** Winter Paralympics Live. **5.35** Location, Location, Location. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **10.05** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** The Gadget Show. (R) **11.35** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.35** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.30** The Nightmarer Neighbour Next Door. (R) **3.30** The Nightmarer Neighbour Next Door. (R) **4.30** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **5.25** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **6.25** **5 News Weekend.** **6.30** **FIA Formula E Live.** The Punta del Este ePrix. Vernon Kay presents coverage of the sixth round of the campaign, which is held in Punta del Este, Uruguay. **8.10** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Documentary giving an insight into cash-strapped Britain from the perspectives of debtors, creditors and those who collect the payments, including High Court enforcement bailiffs and repossession teams. The series follows each case as it unfolds, recording the thoughts and feelings on both sides, the process of repossession and the impact it has on all involved. (R) **9.00** **Football on 5: The Championship.** Colin Murray introduces highlights of the weekend's games, including Leeds United v Sheffield Wednesday at Elland Road, Barnsley v Millwall at Oakwell, Wolverhampton Wanderers v Burton Albion at Molineux and Bolton Wanderers v Aston Villa at the Macron Stadium. **10.00** **Football on 5: Goal Rush.** Colin Murray introduces all the goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two, including Oxford United v Peterborough United and Rochdale v AFC Wimbledon. **10.30** **Live: Hayemaker Fight Night.** Matt Askin v Stephen Simmons and Joe Joyce v Donnie Palmer. Coverage of the respective cruiserweight and heavyweight bouts, which take place at the York Hall in Bethnal Green. **12.00** SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** Cowboy Builders. (R) **4.45** House Doctor. A compilation edition of the home improvement series, with interior designer Ann Maurice revisits some of her most striking transformations of kitchens and dining rooms. (R) **5.10** House Busters. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **8.00** The Silk Road **9.00** Below the Surface **10.30** 101P2 **11.15** Irish Rock at the BBC **12.15** Top of the Pops: 1985 **1.15** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **2.15** The Silk Road **3.15** TOTP2 **4.00** Close **ITV2**  
**11.45** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **1.20** **Film:** License to Wed (2007) **2.25** FYI Daily **2.30** **Film:** License to Wed (2007) **3.05** **Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **4.10** FYI Daily **4.15** **Film:** Dirty Dancing 2: Havana Nights (2004) **4.55** **Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **5.55** FYI Daily **6.00** **Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **6.50** **Film:** Gravity (2013) **7.55** FYI Daily **8.00** **Film:** Gravity (2013) **8.30** **Film:** Pacific Rim (2013) **9.30** FYI Daily **9.35** **Film:** Pacific Rim (2013) **11.10** Family Guy **12.10** American Dad! **1.05** Action Team **1.35** Ibiza Weekender **2.35** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3**  
**1.10** Inspector Morse **3.25** **Film:** Columbo: Playback (1975) **5.00** Vera **7.00** Midsummer Murders **11.00** Inspector Morse **1.10** The Good Karma Hospital **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping **ITV4**  
**1.30** ITV Racing Live from Uttoxeter. **4.00** **Film:** How the West Was Won (1962) **5.05** FYI Daily **5.10** **Film:** How the West Was Won (1962) **7.10** Storage Wars **8.00** **Film:** Jaws: The Revenge (1987) **9.05** FYI Daily **9.10** **Film:** Jaws: The Revenge (1987) **9.50** **Film:** Wanted (2008) **10.55** FYI Daily **11.00** **Film:** Wanted (2008) **12.00** **Film:** The Dictator (2012) **1.00** FYI Daily **1.05** **Film:** The Dictator (2012) **1.45** Minder **2.35** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**  
**12.15** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **12.30** The Goldbergs **1.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.00** Young Sheldon **2.30** The Big Bang Theory **4.00** The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer **5.15** Extreme Cake Makers **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** **Film:** The World's End (2013) **11.10** Gogglebox **12.15** Five Star Hotel **3.20** Timeless **4.05** How I Met Your Mother **4.45** Rude(ish) Tube **Film4**  
**11.00** Rio (2011) **1.00** Step Up All In (2014) **3.10** Hulk (2003) **5.50** Avatar (2009) **9.00** R.I.P.D (2013) **10.55** The Pyramid (2014) **12.40** Citadel (2012) **2.20** Maniac (2012) **4.00** Close

Star

Reader

Travel

Hand picked holidays with you in mind

Your Chronicle

in association with

Just Go!

Holidays



### Tornado Steam Train

& Classic Cambridge

**Departing Thursday 10 May**

from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

**Price Includes...**

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ 2 nights DBB at a selected hotel
- ✓ Train journey behind the Tornado locomotive on the Nene Valley Railway
- ✓ En-route visit to Cambridge

3 Days

by Coach

now only

£175



### The Good Old Days

City Varieties Music Hall

**Departing Sunday 23 Sep**

from Dudley & Halesowen

**Price Includes...**

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ 1 night DBB at our selected hotel in Yorkshire
- ✓ Ticket to The Good Old Days at the City Varieties Music Hall (Upper Circle, Side Circle or Side Stalls)
- ✓ Free time in Leeds & Harrogate

2 Days

by Coach

only

£135



### Warner Isle of Wight

Experience

**Departing Monday 3 Dec**

from Halesowen

**Price Includes...**

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ 4 nights DBB at the Warner Norton Grange Coastal Village, Isle of Wight
- ✓ FREE bar (6pm-midnight) on selected drinks
- ✓ Festive entertainment every night
- ✓ Daytime activities
- ✓ Use of leisure facilities
- ✓ Excursions to Newport, Cowes, Shanklin & Godshill

5 Days

by Coach

now only

£279



### Thursford

Christmas Spectacular

**Departing Friday 14 Dec**

from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

**Price Includes...**

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ 3 nights DBB at the Warner Gunton Hall, Lowestoft
- ✓ Entrance to the Thursford Christmas Spectacular
- ✓ Entertainment every night
- ✓ Excursion to Norwich

4 Days

by Coach

now only

£260

Coach package holidays are subject to Just Go! Holidays terms and conditions which are based on the Bonded Coach Holiday Group Trading Charter. Tours offered subject to availability. Errors and omissions excepted. Prices shown are per person, based on two people sharing a dbl/twin room. Single supplements apply.

For more information or to book, please call:

03332 341 875

Quote JGRT

0333 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

or visit us online at

justgoholidays.com/RT



## CHOICE



Keeley Hawes

**The Durrells (ITV, 8pm)**

New series. In the first episode of a new series, the family are surprised to find out that Leslie has three different girlfriends, so Louisa decides to take it upon herself to help him pick one by having each member of the family invite their favourite girl to afternoon tea. Larry injures his leg and Theo decides to use his newly set-up x-ray unit to try and examine it. Elsewhere, Gerry continues to grow his animal collection, Margo takes up a job as Theo's assistant, and Aunt Hermione arrives in Corfu for good.

## BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **8.30** MOTD: FA Cup Highlights. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Liffeline. **12.25** Songs of Praise. **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** MOTD Live: The FA Cup. Wigan Athletic v Southampton (Kick-off 1.30pm). **3.35** A Question of Sport. (R) **4.05** MOTD Live: The FA Cup. Leicester City v Chelsea (Kick-off 4.30pm).

**6.35 BBC News.****6.50 Regional Programme.**

**7.00** Countryfile. Ellie Harrison travels to Pembrokeshire to assess the effects of recent storms on the area's coastline. Adam Henson visits Scotland's Rural College to look at the latest research into reducing farming's impact on global warming, while Tom Heap looks at declining sales in lamb, and learns about the problems this has caused for the UK's sheep farmers.

**8.00** Hold the Sunset. Bob suggests that Roger apply to become his mother's paid carer – but the only problem is that she is in perfect health, so he needs someone more in need of support to pose as her.

**8.30** Film: Brooklyn. (2015) Premiere. An Irish woman living with her mother in the 1950s decides to make a fresh start in America. She makes her home in New York, and falls in love. However, her past catches up with her when she receives bad news from Ireland, and faces a harsh choice between her two homes. Drama based on Colm Toibin's novel, starring Saoirse Ronan, Domhnall Gleeson, Jim Broadbent and Julie Walters.

**10.10 BBC News.****10.30 Regional Programme.**

**10.40** Paddy McGuinness' Sport Relief Warm Up. The host rows, walks and jogs from his home to the Sport Relief studio in Salford, and along the way looks at highlights from past events and offers previews of Sport Relief 2018.

**11.40** Film: The Sentinel. (2006) A secret service agent is framed for murder as he tries to expose a neo-Nazi militant who has infiltrated the White House. Spy thriller, with Michael Douglas and Kiefer Sutherland.

**1.20** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.25** BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.05** Coast. (R) **7.05** The Instant Gardener. (R) **7.50** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.20** Countryfile. (R) **9.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.45** Spring Kitchen with Tom Kerridge. (R) **11.30** Lorraine Pascale: How to Be a Better Cook. (R) **12.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **12.45** The Ladykillers: Pest Detectives. (R) **1.45** Pilgrimage: The Road to Santiago. (R) **2.45** Money for Nothing. (R) **3.45** The World's Most Extraordinary Homes. (R) **4.45** Back in Time for Tea. (R) **5.45** Film: Catch Me If You Can. (2002) Fact-based drama, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Tom Hanks.

**8.00** Top Gear. Matt LeBlanc tests the world's fastest-accelerating car, with a little help from NASA. Chris Harris pens a heartfelt love letter to the Citroën 2CV, while Rory Reid samples some exciting cars from South Korea. Dara O'Brain and Ed Byrne are the studio guests.

**9.00** Famously Unfit for Sport Relief. Entertainer Les Dennis, presenter Susannah Constantine, actress Tameka Empson and comedian Miles Jupp embark on a muscle-grinding mission to regain their fitness. Cameras follow the foursome over a 10-week period as they run, climb and swim their way back to fitness, culminating in one of the UK's hardest and most demanding physical challenges – which sees the quartet tackle a muddy and exhausting assault course in freezing temperatures. The programme also features visits to two projects in the UK, illustrating some of the ways in which money raised through the fund helps vulnerable people.

**10.00** The Mash Report. Nish Kumar and a cast of comedy correspondents present the satirical and surreal take on the week's news. (R)

**10.30** Top Gear: Extra Gear. Rory Reid puts his engineering skills to the challenge of building a rear wheel drive car. With guests touring car champion Chris Turkington and comedian Brennan Reece.

**10.55** Women's Six Nations Highlights. Action from the final round of fixtures, which were England v Ireland at the Ricoh Arena, Wales v France at Parc Eiras and Italy v Scotland at the Stadio Plebiscito.

**11.25** Film: Being Blacker. (2018) **12.55** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **1.55** Holby City. (R) **2.55** This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00** CITV: Sooty. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.20** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.30** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Marvel's Avengers: Ultron Revolution. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **8.00** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Spy School. **9.05** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Love Your Garden. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **10.55** The Voice UK. (R) **12.55** ITV News: Weather. **1.00** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway. (R) **2.30** What Would Your Kid Do? (R) **3.30** The Harbour. (R) **4.00** Tipping Point. (R) **5.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special. (R)

**6.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs. An abandoned puppy is brought in with a skin condition that is so severe the vets are unable to determine its breed, and Paul tries to prepare his dog for a neutering operation. (R)

**6.30** ITV News: Weather.

**6.45 Regional Programme; Weather.**

**7.00** Celebrity Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts a celebrity special of the guessing game, challenging Chris Kamara, Stacey Solomon and Catherine Tyldesley to see it and say it.

**8.00** The Durrells. New series. In the first episode of a new series, the family are surprised to find out that Leslie has three different girlfriends, and Aunt Hermione arrives in Corfu for good.

**9.00** The Good Karma Hospital. New series. Ruby encounters new challenges as a blistering heatwave hits Kerala, while Lydia decides she is ready for her first solo night shift. But when a storm hits Barco, Ruby faces an agonising test that stretches her medical skills to the limits. Return of the medical drama set in southern India, starring Amrita Acharia and Amanda Redman.

**10.05 ITV News: Weather.****10.20 Peston on Sunday. (R)**

**11.15** Six Nations Highlights. Jill Douglas presents action from the final round of fixtures, featuring England v Ireland, Wales v France and Italy v Scotland.

**12.10** Marcella. (R) **1.00** Jackpot247. **3.00** Take on the Twisters. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.25** Mobli 1: The Grid. **8.00** Winter Paralympics Breakfast. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Winter Paralympics Today. **2.00** Winter Paralympics Closing Ceremony. Coverage from PyeongChang Olympic Stadium in South Korea. **3.15** Film: Epic. (2013) Animated adventure, with the voice of Amanda Seyfried. **5.15** The Great Celebrity Bake Off for Stand Up to Cancer. (R)

**6.30 Channel 4 News.**

**7.00** Britain's Polar Bear Cub. Behind the scenes at the Highland Wildlife Park near Kinrossie in Invernesshire, following efforts to breed the nation's first polar bear cub for 25 years as keepers mate Arkots with Victoria. Cameras reveal the highs and lows of the staff's attempts to breed one of the world's most recognisable and endangered animals.

**8.00** Escape to the Chateau. New series. Series following a British family restoring a French chateau. As summer arrives, Dick Strawbridge and Angel Adoree are busier than ever with seven weddings and 14 food lovers' weekends to prepare for. And as if that wasn't enough to keep them busy, they must also sort out the garden, work on a stables conversion and embark on a surprising floating adventure.

**9.00** Homeland. Carrie puts a plan in motion. Saul visits a source and Keane makes a desperate plea. Espionage drama, starring Claire Danes, Mandy Patinkin and Elizabeth Marvel.

**10.05** 13 Commandments. New series. A provincial Belgian town is rocked by the murder of a 16-year-old girl and the case takes a shocking turn. Crime thriller, starring Dirk Van Dijk. In Flemish.

**11.00** Film: Solace. (2015) A psychic helps the FBI to identify a serial killer, but realises the murderer has mental powers of his own. Crime thriller, starring Anthony Hopkins and Colin Farrell.

**12.55** The Last Leg. With guest Claudia Winkleman. (R) **1.50** The Job Interview. (R) **2.45** KOTV Boxing Weekly. **3.25** Gillette World Sport. **3.55** Undercover: Who's Policing Bank? – Channel 4 Dispatches. (R) **4.25** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.20** Food Unwrapped. (R) **5.45** Kirstie's Homemade Home. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wissper. (R) **6.20** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.30** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.35** The Secret Life of Puppies. (R) **6.40** Moly. (R) **6.45** Simon. (R) **6.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.10** Thomas & Friends. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.40** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.50** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.10** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.30** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.45** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.15** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **10.00** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **10.55** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R)

**11.25** Film: Getting Even with Dad. (1994) **1.30** Film: Richie Rich. (1994) Family comedy, starring Macaulay Culkin. **3.15** Film: My Girl. (1991) Drama, starring Anna Chumsky and Macaulay Culkin. **4.15** 5 News Update. **4.20** Film: My Girl. (1991) Concluded. **5.20** Film: Junior. (1994) Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

**7.20** Film: Jumper. (2008) A man discovers he has the ability to teleport, a talent he cleverly exploits to rob banks undetected while living a life of luxury all over the world. However, he soon learns he is not the only one with this power – and that a secret society of religious fanatics is determined to wipe out him and all of his kind. Fantasy thriller, with Hayden Christensen, Jamie Bell and Samuel L. Jackson.

**8.55 5 News Weekend.**

**9.00** Film: The Equalizer. (2014) A retired secret agent applies his talents to the task of helping victims of injustice. When he witnesses a prostitute being beaten up by a pimp, he kills the man, an act that draws him into a battle to the death with a Russian crime syndicate. Action thriller based on the 1980s TV series, starring Denzel Washington and Chloë Grace Moretz.

**10.05 5 News Update.**

**10.05** Film: The Equalizer. (2014) Concluded.

**11.35** Film: The Expendables 2. (2012) The mercenary team battles a rival band of hired guns who have killed one of their own. Action thriller sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone and Jean-Claude Van Damme.

**1.35** SuperCasino. **3.10** Cowboy Builders. (R) **4.00** World's Most Pampered Pets. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Four**

**7.00** Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Ancient Greece: The Greatest Show on Earth **9.00** Andrew Marr on Churchill: Blood, Sweat and Oil Paint **10.00** Film: 13 Minutes (2015) **11.45** The Riviera: A History in Pictures **1.45** Ancient Greece: The Greatest Show on Earth **2.45** Andrew Marr on Churchill: Blood, Sweat and Oil Paint **3.45** Sounds of the Seventies **4.00** Close

**ITV2**

**12.55** The Voice UK **2.55** Film: Happy Feet (2006) **3.55** FYI Daily **4.00** Film: Happy Feet (2006) **5.05** FYI Daily **6.10** Film: Hotel Transylvania 2 (2015) **7.00** Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **8.00** FYI Daily **8.05** Film: The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (2008) **9.00** Ibiza Weekender **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.25** Film: Keith Lemon: The Film (2012) **1.30** FYI Daily **1.35** Film: Keith Lemon: The Film (2012) **2.05** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records

**ITV3**

**7.00** Murder, She Wrote **8.00** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs **9.00** Joanna Lumley's Trans-Siberian Adventure **10.00** Film: The Theory of Everything (2014) **12.30** Inspector Morse **2.25** Blue Murder **3.40** Rising Damp **4.05** Road to Avonlea

**ITV4**

**11.50** FYI Daily **11.55** Film: How the West Was Won (1962) **2.00** Goodwood Members Meeting. **5.05** Film: How the West Was Won (1962) **6.05** Film: On Her Majesty's Secret Service (1969) **7.25** FYI Daily **7.30** Film: On Her Majesty's Secret Service (1969) **9.00** Film: Windtalkers (2002) **10.00** FYI Daily **10.05** Film: Windtalkers (2002) **11.50** Film: Above the Law (1988) **12.50** FYI Daily **12.55** Film: Above the Law (1988) **1.55** River Monsters **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

**E4**

**12.20** The Big Bang Theory **4.20** The Goldbergs **4.50** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **5.50** Young Sheldon **6.20** The Big Bang Theory **6.50** Film: School of Rock (2003) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** Film: 2 Guns (2013) **12.10** The Big Bang Theory **1.05** Five Star Hotel **3.00** First Dates **4.00** Close

**Film4**

**1.00** Anastasia (1997) **2.50** Bridge to Terabithia (2007) **4.40** One Fine Day (1996) **6.50** Crocodile Dundee II (1988) **9.00** Terminator Genisys (2015) **11.25** The King's Speech (2010) **1.40** Force Majeure (2014) **4.00** Close

## OLD LIFE...NEW LIFE

For these patients our procedures have been life changing. Could this be what you need in 2018?



Jacky Standish



Theresa Reardon



Vicki Ball



John Clews



**A**TTRACTIVE, confident and with a contagious laugh – that's professional chef, Jacky Standish. Looking younger than her 57 years, Jacky has recently drawn up an unusual "bucket list", though she's quick to point out: "I'm not dying."

For Jacky, who was so ashamed of her teeth she walked her dog at 5am to avoid meeting people, clever dentistry at North Street has marked a new life chapter, punctuated with a list of the all places she's only dreamed of dining.

The former chef and house manager at Hagley Hall has undergone a major transformation after gum disease ruined her smile, confidence and her ability to chew properly.

Now, with four implants retaining an upper overdenture and a partial lower traditional prosthetic, she's thrilled with her new look. "My jaw is sore from smiling so much. No-one would ever know they are not my natural teeth," she says.

**W**HEN Theresa Reardon from London set out to fix a longstanding dental problem she never imagined it would take a lifetime's search before finding the answer in Dudley.

Even a trip as a dental tourist to Budapest failed to help the 82-year-old.

After a lifetime of denture troubles, it was during a visit to a friend at Wolverhampton she found fresh hope in a newspaper article. For eight years the former Queen's Household domestic kept the cutting about the work of Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS Eng GDC108353.

"I read it over and over again, then one day booked an appointment," she recalls.

"I could never bite an apple – the bottom denture was all over the place – but the day I had my new dentures I went out and had a steak. Steven has done for me what no other dentist has. It's been a long time coming, I'm so grateful that I don't have to put my hand over my mouth any more."

**M**EETING Vicki Ball is all about the smiles – lots of them and she's gushing with the praise about her new smile.

A retired community midwife, who was based in Wordsley, the bubbly 60-something-year-old is quick to affirm: "I love my new teeth."

Adding, "you can't tell they're not my own," Vicki admits her smile has not always been her favourite attribute.

"I'd grown tired of living my life around my uncomfortable dentures.

I never really stopped going out, but when I did, I was always thinking ahead where I could go to take my teeth out." Vicki's treatment included two implants to stabilise a lower prosthetic and the prescribing of high quality, traditional upper dentures to help support facial features.

"My husband, Terry, couldn't believe they were so good. Not to have to keep thinking about my teeth when I'm out is such a relief," she says.

**J**OHNS Clews is sharply focused on why he's agreed to do this interview: "I want to give people like me hope," he declares.

The skilled die-sinker knows a thing or two about clever engineering – and with multiple failing teeth, instinctively realised that he too required the kind of skill that sets him apart as an experienced factory problem-solver.

For years he endured daily toothache, but crippled by fear of the dentist, avoided treatment until he could no longer tolerate the problems.

"I came here [North Street] and they promised to restore my smile, but they gave me back my life," he adds.

After having six implants in his upper jaw to support a complete arch of teeth and other remedial work,

John is now able to live his life without having to worry about his teeth.

And the dental phobia? "All staff were fantastic, I felt so much at ease."

FILM CHOICES

**MONDAY**  
**A Deadly Affair, Channel 5, 3.20pm**  
 Suspecting her husband Charlie of having an affair, author Mary trails him to the house he has been renovating, only to find his dead body. As she is having her own fling, Mary becomes the lead suspect in her spouse's murder. Thriller, starring Valerie Azlynn, Austin Highsmith and Luke Edwards. (2017)

**TUESDAY**  
**The Expendables 3, Channel 5, 10pm**  
 Soldier of fortune Barney Ross discovers an old friend he was forced to kill is still alive, and has become a powerful arms dealer with vengeance on his mind. Barney is forced to recruit a new band of mercenaries and adopt more modern tactics to deal with this threat to him and his past associates. Action thriller sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone and Mel Gibson. (2014)



Under Siege, Thursday, Channel 5, 10pm

**WEDNESDAY**  
**A Walk Among the Tombstones, Channel 5, 9pm**  
 An ex cop working as an unlicensed private eye is hired by a drug trafficker to find the men who murdered his wife. As the detective investigates the case, he discovers the men he is tracking have killed many times before and takes desperate measures to stop them claiming another victim. Crime thriller based on Lawrence Sanders' novel, starring Liam Neeson and Dan Stevens. (2014)

**THURSDAY**  
**Under Siege, Channel 5, 10pm**  
 Terrorists infiltrate a US battleship in a carefully orchestrated move to steal its arsenal of nuclear weapons, unaware the ship's resourceful cook - a veteran US Navy Seal - and a scantily clad stripper are about to foil their plans. Action adventure, starring Steven Seagal, Erika Eleniak, Gary Busey and Tommy Lee Jones. (1992)

**FRIDAY**  
**The Net, Channel 4, 12.10am**  
 A computer analyst has to prove her true identity after her details are replaced by a false police record on the national database. Thriller, with Sandra Bullock, Jeremy Northam, Dennis Miller and Diane Baker. (1995)

# The stars are out to shine in the aid of a good cause

Whether you're a couch potato or a seasoned sprinter, we hope you have been on your feet this week and making your steps count.

In the lead up to tonight's Sport Relief, the Billion Steps Challenge has been taking place as the British public have been encouraged to get active, have fun and raise cash to help people living tough lives both in the UK and around the world.

For the first time, tonight's show comes live from Salford, with the mayhem beginning at 7pm as Gary Lineker, Davina McCall and Ore Oduba welcome viewers. Throughout the night, the baton is then passed to Paddy McGuinness, Claudia Winkleman and Freddie Flintoff as they guide viewers into the early hours.

As is always the case with Sport Relief, a host of famous faces will be stepping into unfamiliar territory, all in the name of entertainment and fundraising.

Celebrity Boxing makes a comeback, as six fearless stars don

their gloves and mouth guards and take to the ring for a triple-bill of bouts. Wayne Bridge faces Spencer Matthews, Hannah Spearritt goes head to head with Vanessa White and Camilla Thurlow takes on Helen Skelton.

Also during the evening, comedian John Bishop lands a role he could only have dreamt of and sets out on a mission to help England win the World Cup.

We'll see a Clash Of The Channels Boat Race, while Sue Barker hosts a special edition of quiz A Question Of Sport.

There will be regular visits to 5-Live-A-Side outside the studio, where Robbie Savage's celebrity all-star team are attempting a whopping 12 hours of non-stop football.

Strictly Come Dancing brings a welcome dose of glitz and glamour to the evening as three football legends - Alex Scott, Chris Kamara and David Ginola - don their sequins and show us their fancy footwork.

Throughout the night, there will be a look into how money raised through Sport Relief can help vulnerable people in the UK and across the world to live happier, healthier, safer lives, with a special focus this year on maternal health, malaria and mental health.

There will be updates on Zoe Ball who has been taking part in a cycle challenge from Blackpool to Brighton to raise mental health awareness, after the death of her boyfriend, cameraman Billy Yates, last year.

Zoe says: "I wanted to do something for him. One in four people is living with mental illness. That's a lot of people struggling."

In 2016, Radio 1 DJ Greg James finished five triathlons in five days in five cities and raised over £750,000.

This year, he has taken part in another epic challenge, officially named Pedal To The Peaks, but nicknamed the Gregathlon.

He said: "My last challenge was unbelievably difficult but I think we're about to top it. This challenge is even more ridiculous."



The biennial fundraiser, Sport Relief 2018, Friday, BBC1, 7pm

## BEST OF THE REST

**THURSDAY**  
**Martin Luther King by Trevor McDonald**  
**ITV, 9pm**

Throughout his career, Trevor McDonald has met many remarkable people. However, there is one man who he always wishes he could have spoken to - Martin Luther King. The American civil rights leader was assassinated on April 4, 1968, and as the 50th anniversary approaches, McDonald is travelling to the Deep South of America to learn more about the man who meant so much to him. The broadcaster also discovers more about what King was fighting against, as he speaks to an expert on the horrors of lynching in 20th-century America and meets a former Ku Klux Klan member who confesses there was a time when he would have targeted him because of the colour of his skin.



Martin Luther King by Trevor McDonald, Thursday, ITV, 9pm

**FRIDAY**  
**Live International Football**  
**ITV, 7.30pm**

Netherlands v England (Kick-off 7.45pm). Mark Pougatch presents all the action from the friendly at the Johan Cruyff Arena, as England began preparations for the World Cup. Gareth Southgate's men qualified for the finals unbeaten, but he will still feel there is room for improvement as he looks to find his strongest team ahead of the finals in Russia. Despite finishing third four years ago and as runners-up in 2010, the Dutch have failed to qualify for the World Cup this time around and are now looking to rebuild under the guidance of new manager Ronald Koeman, who had spells as boss of Southampton and Everton. With analysis from Ian Wright, Lee Dixon and Patrick Kluivert, and commentary by Clive Tyldesley and Glenn Hoddle.

**Britain's Favourite Food**  
**Channel 4, 8pm**  
 Simon Rimmer looks at some of the nation's favourite branded foods, which found fame in a past era. In the first of two programmes, the cook and restaurateur tells the story of Angel Delight, revisits the golden summer of 1979 with lollies like Zoom and Fab, relates the amazing tale of Blue Nun and the wine the French allegedly adored - Le Piat d'Or.

# BROADCAST YOUR BUSINESS

WITH THE COMPLETE PRODUCTION OF A COMPELLING VIDEO

- 1. PRE-PRODUCTION PLANNING**  
Where we find out about you!
- 2. ON-LOCATION RECORDING**  
The important bit.
- 3. AUDIO PRODUCTION**  
Music or voice over?
- 4. POST PRODUCTION**  
Where the finishing touches happen.
- 5. VIDEO ADVERTISING**  
Want even more exposure?

CALL 01902 319730

Source: [www.mnadigital.co.uk/video-advertising](http://www.mnadigital.co.uk/video-advertising)

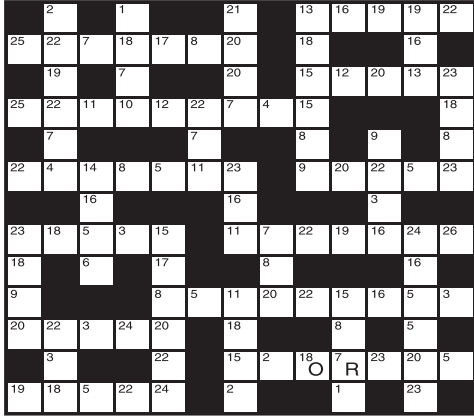


# BRAIN GYM

No.471

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18 O
6	19
7	20 R
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Z	O	J	N	G	I	B	E	L	W	U	A	X
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
H	S	M	C	K	Y	Q	P	T	V	R	D	F

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

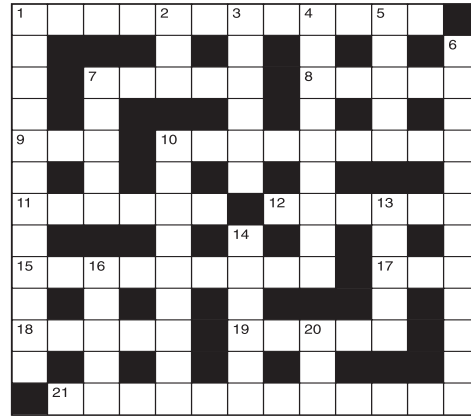
### Cryptic Clues:

#### Across

- Where they are well-endowed to deal with complaints? (6,6)
- Some support for the workers (5)
- A quaintly pleasing French accent (5)
- Finished up with paid help (3)
- Finished after only half the distance and stretched out (9)
- Country hat (6)
- Hang about as many fish (6)
- Little known, but giving one credit (9)
- No alternative (3)
- One is about to make a racket (5)
- Put a watch on (5)
- Condenses Enid's solo act, perhaps (12)

#### Down

- Successor clearly seen (4,8)
- Food and drink (3)
- Don't agree it's rubbish (6)
- Deadlock with an old friend (9)
- Drinks and a sandwich (5)
- A quality we don't care to show (12)
- Battle for the chairman's seat? (5)
- Bullies those who work around the pit (9)
- Ridiculed a conductor, we hear (5)
- He has a part in a Shakespeare play, but may be fired (6)
- The atmosphere in a small company may be capital (5)
- It's not sensible to stop up (3)



### Quick Clues:

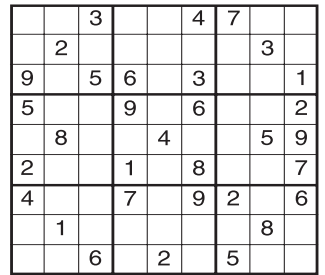
#### Across

- U.S. port (3,9)
- Later (5)
- Coach (5)
- Fasten (3)
- Perfume (9)
- One who goes naked (6)
- Amend (6)
- Tomb (9)
- Tavern (3)
- Boxing ring (5)
- Sea (5)
- In various places (4,3,5)

#### Down

- Meteor (8,4)
- Decay (3)
- Usual (6)
- Interpose (9)
- Fetter (5)
- Endless (12)
- In front (5)
- Continuous shooting (9)
- Constellation (5)
- Flung (6)
- Portion (5)
- Consume (3)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	2	8	5	1	9	7	4	6
1	4	7	6	3	2	8	9	5
9	5	6	4	7	8	1	3	2
5	3	9	7	8	1	2	6	4
4	7	2	9	5	6	3	1	8
6	8	1	2	4	3	9	5	7
2	9	5	3	6	7	4	8	1
8	6	3	1	2	4	5	7	9
7	1	4	8	9	5	6	2	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 4 Fairway; 8 Reason; 9 Upstart; 10 Tuscan; 11 Reeled; 12 Ordinaire; 18 Fatalist; 20 Manage; 21 Skater; 22 Straits; 23 Intone; 24 Addenda. Down: 1 Oration; 2 Passage; 3 Domain; 5 Apparent; 6 Rather; 7 Agreed; 13 Defeated; 14 Fiction; 15 Starred; 16 Matted; 17 Garage; 19 Asking. QUICK - Across: 4 Variety; 8 Opined; 9 Account; 10 Cougar; 11 Spined; 12 Penitent; 18 Commence; 20 Colour; 21 Struck; 22 Comical; 23 Detain; 24 Lengthy. Down: 1 Concept; 2 Piquant; 3 Depart; 5 Accustom; 6 Irony; 7 Tinged; 13 Encroach; 14 Inhuman; 15 Weakens; 16 Morose; 17 Coming; 19 Mutter.

## Quiz

- In the Arabian Nights, how many journeys did Sinbad make?
- What is the administrative capital of Bolivia?
- Which US state is nicknamed the Beehive State?
- What is the Lord Chancellor's seat in the House of Lords called?
- What is the capital of Rwanda?
- Which drug yields both morphine and codeine?
- Which architect designed London's Chelsea Hospital?
- What is the longest river in Europe?
- Who was the Roman god of fire and destruction?
- Which Canadian territory's capital is Whitehorse?

### Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Kentucky Derby; 2 Pandora; 3 Assyrian;

4 A lizard; 5 Fremantle; 6 Judo; 7 Tree; 8 US

Independence; 9 Zaire; 10 Ceefax.

Niner: MANGROVES

## Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

2785328  
6422  
123496

gives a British city,  
gives a second British city,  
gives a British town.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



# Dedicated to Care

Redbrick Court, a care home designed to meet the needs expectations of the next generation of older people, opened recently in Wordsley, Stourbridge.

New owners SCL Care Ltd, who are well established in the West Midlands, say: "The dedicated service, combined with Redbrick Court's luxurious environment, allow our residents to live a full, rich and meaningful life in the company of supportive and like-minded people.

Boasting a library, a hairdressing and beauty salon, two lounges, a cinema lounge, a unique garden room, a sensory room, a cafe lounge as well as beautiful dining rooms, Wi-Fi access, top-of-the-range accessible spa baths, wet rooms and personal laundry facilities, the home provides first class amenities designed to enrich and vary the daily life of residents, their friends and family. These leisure spaces are used for a wide range of social activities on a daily basis and have been decorated to have a warm, homely feel.

The design of all the accommodation improves the

## Commercial feature

standard of care by giving all residents, including those living with dementia, greater choice, dignity and security in their daily routine.

A range of design features help residents familiarise themselves with their new home as well as create a safe environment.

The bright and spacious bedrooms are decorated to create luxurious living spaces where residents feel safe and happy. Each bedroom has its own flat screen TV with Freeview, comfortable seating and lots of storage. A large number of bedrooms enjoy modern en-suite shower rooms. The bedrooms combine all the comforts of home with carefully chosen technology to provide an additional sense of security, including specially adapted lights call systems and profiling beds.

With a wide range of on-site leisure facilities and diverse choice of activities developed to enrich the lives of residents, Redbrick Court is a wonderful place to live. Little touches like beautiful vases and

flowers, vintage style photographs and artwork adorning the walls, as well as the fantastic staff, will make people feel instantly comfortable and at home.

The mature garden has a patio as well as a lawned area and benefits from a delightful water feature. Outdoor seating and rest areas offer residents plenty of opportunities to take a break and relax as needed, or spaces to simply stop and chat with friends in the peaceful setting.

Redbrick Court knows how important mealtimes are and like them to be a sociable part of the day. The home prides itself on the quality of their catering, serving tasty and wholesome food, prepared daily from fresh, seasonal ingredients.

The experienced chefs understand the nutritional requirements of older people and cater for residents with a dietary needs. They respect individual preferences and plan menus in consultation with residents. Redbrick Court is taking bookings and offering special opening prices. Rooms are filling fast. For further information, or to arrange a visit, call (01384) 485444 or visit [www.sclcare.co.uk](http://www.sclcare.co.uk)

# WELCOME TO REDBRICK COURT **Recently Refurbished**

Redbrick Court situated in Wordsley, Stourbridge is our newest home, designed to meet the needs and expectations of the next generation of older people. Our dedicated service, combined with Redbrick Court's luxurious environment, allow our Residents to live a full, rich and meaningful life in the company of supportive and like-minded people.



Cinema Room

Hairdressing Salon



Dining Room

Quiet Room

**Redbrick Court, High Street, Wordsley, Stourbridge DY8 5SD**

Tel (01384) 485444 | [www.sclcare.co.uk/redbrick-court](http://www.sclcare.co.uk/redbrick-court)

# Brighton breezy and runaway success

**RUNNING** around a 13-mile course in the cold would not be everyone's ideal way to spend a Sunday morning.

But when it's in Brighton it makes it all worthwhile. With a daughter at university in the south-east city, we have become frequent visitors in the last few months.

So taking on the Brighton Half Marathon, its 28th, seemed the perfect excuse to spend another weekend there.

It was fresh as literally thousands of runners took their places, but the atmosphere was tremendous, with well-wishers cheering on the runners, random children high-fiving and strangers offering energy-boosting jelly babies.

And of course, it gave participants the chance to see the sights of the beautiful city, including the Sea Life Centre, Royal Pavilion and the British Airways i360. The route even takes in Hove and its colourful beach huts.

## MERGED

Brighton and Hove merged in 1997 and was given city status in 2000. Of course, one doesn't necessarily need to take the muscle-sapping half marathon route to enjoy what the city has to offer. The i360, for example, offers an all-round view of the city and even of the Isle of Wight.

There's the largest marina in the UK, with its working harbour, residential housing and entertainment including glow in dark golf, cinema and eateries.

The Lanes shopping area features niche retail outlets and pubs, while the city is also home to the Brighton Dome, where Abba won Eurovision in 1974 with Waterloo. And it's home to Premiership football, of course.

Music still plays a big part in the city's culture today.

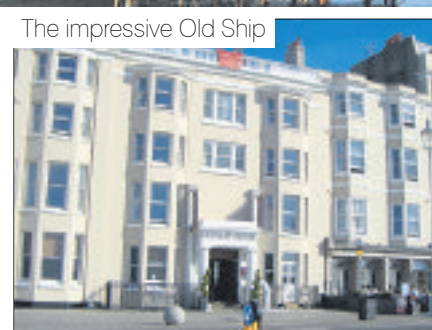
Peruse the shops in The Lanes or stop for a bite



Take time for a stroll along Brighton Pier



The impressive Old Ship



Bands The Kooks, Levellers, Royal Blood and Brit award-winning Rag n Bone Man all hail from the region. As does celebrated DJ Norman 'Fat Boy Slim' Cook, who was also running in the half marathon with his teenage son Woody.

The history of Brighton as a holiday destination of repute dates back to Prince Regent, later George IV, who established himself there in late 18th century, and commissioned leading architect John Nash to create the iconic Royal Pavilion as his seaside retreat.

By 1814 the rail line opened and mass tourism was encouraged. Brighton continued to prosper even after Queen Victoria sold the pavilion. Many landmarks were built during her reign including the listed Palace Pier, the last one standing of three such structures.

The city, aka London by the Sea, attracts visitors all year round with entertainment including England's

largest arts festival, Pride, and a series of London to Brighton runs in the form of vintage cars and scooters, a nod to the 1963 film Quadrophenia, set in the city.

Also dating back centuries is the Old Ship, the city's oldest hotel, established in around 1559. We stayed in the imposing seafront premises, which has more than 340 rooms, a gym and features the listed Assembly Rooms.

Impressive, both from the outside and within, our splendid room had a sea view and the staff were so accommodating, allowing me take breakfast away to eat after the run, and putting back our checkout time to allow me to come back and shower afterwards.

Brighton breezy it may have been, but we are already planning our next trip back.

MARK SHIPP

**StarReaderTravel**  
Hand picked holidays with you in mind

Your Chronicle  
in association with  
**Omega.**



## Ultimate Emmerdale

Studio, Village & Meet a Star

**Departing Saturday 19 May**

from Dudley, Halesowen & Stourbridge

### Price Includes...

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ 1 night DBB at a selected hotel, Yorkshire
- ✓ Guided tour of the Emmerdale TV Village
- ✓ Timed admission to the Emmerdale Studio Experience
- ✓ Exclusive meet and greet with Mark Charnock at the Bradford Hotel

**2 Days**  
by Coach **only £169**



## Royal Ascot Ladies Day

with Brunch

**Departing Thursday 21 Jun**

from Dudley

### Price Includes...

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ Brunch-time full English breakfast with a glass of sparkling wine at the Marriott Windsor
- ✓ Admission ticket to the Windsor Enclosure at Royal Ascot on Ladies' Day

**Day Trip**  
by Coach **only £99**

Coach package holidays are subject to Omega Holidays terms and conditions and are protected by a bond held with ABTA (No V4782). Tours offered subject to availability. Errors and omissions excepted. Prices shown are per person, based on two people sharing a dba/twin room. Single supplements apply.

For more information  
or to book, please call:

**03300 130 051**

or visit online at: **omegabreaks.com/RT**

Quote **OMRT**

033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.



## ASHWOOD NURSERIES

NURSERY | TEA ROOM | GIFT SHOP | MAIL ORDER



### Orchid Extravaganza

Come & see our exotic display of orchids in our House Plant Greenhouse during March & April



### John's Garden Charity Open Day

**Saturday 17th March | 10am-4pm | £5 entrance**

All proceeds donated to WINGS in Wombourne, for further information please visit our website

**WWW.ASHWOODNURSERIES.COM**

Ashwood Lower Lane, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 0AE Tel: 01384 401996  
Spring Opening Hours: Mon to Sat 8.30am – 5.30pm & Sundays: 9am – 5.30pm



CHRONICLE

**With Easter School Holidays just around the corner, keep an eye out for activities and ideas for days out to keep your children busy and entertained!**  
**To advertise please telephone Sarah Childs on 01384 353258**

Part of Express & Star Ltd

**MNA Media**

## Big challenge for Mitsubishi lies ahead



Slotting between the ASX and the Outlander, the Eclipse Cross brings the Japanese manufacturer into the highly competitive mid-sized SUV market for the first time

By Carmel Stewart

**Hoping to Eclipse all others in the overcrowded SUV market, the newest vehicle from Mitsubishi has a big challenge ahead.**

Slotting between the ASX and the Outlander, the Eclipse Cross brings the Japanese manufacturer, famous for its off-roading, robust workhorses, into the highly competitive mid-sized SUV market for the first time although making serious inroads into this segment is a big ask.

But Mitsubishi is made of stern stuff. This is, after all, the company which brought us the Outlander, the Shogun and the L200 as well as the Lancer Evo. In the past, it has formed partnerships with a number of manufacturers. In 2017 it joined the Nissan/Renault Alliance which gives it access to a vast array of automotive technology and expertise.

In many ways the Eclipse is an uncomplicated vehicle. One engine – a 1.5litre, turbocharged, 163ps petrol – and two transmissions – six-speed manual for the 2WD version and an all-new eight-speed CVT automatic for both 2WD and 4WD.

It is good looking too with a sporty stance, coupe-like roof line, flared wheel arches and big bumpers front and rear.

The spacious cabin is well put together with a cockpit style set-up up front, clearly delineated dash, rear seats which recline and slide and, what would be great all-round visibility, but for the split rear window. I am assured drivers get used to it in time but on test it proved a slight source of irritation.

One neat aspect of the design is the way the doors are set into the frames ensuring that the lip is kept clean and not splashed with mud which can get on your trouser legs.

On the road, the four-cylinder, 163bhp

engine proved very flexible with plenty of low down grunt well balanced with top end power. Handling was composed and solidly stable with bumps and ruts absorbed by the well set up suspension.

Opt for the 4WD auto version and 'super all-wheel control' with selectable driving modes is included. This is essentially Mitsubishi's version of intelligent four-wheel-drive which sends torque to where it is needed most.

The Eclipse is very reasonably priced at £21,275 and well specified with trims straightforwardly designated 2, 3 and 4, plus the top spec First Edition which comes in at £26,825. An automatic transmission adds to the final tally as does the 4x4 option.

The entry level Eclipse Cross 2 includes 16-inch alloys, rear view camera, Bluetooth, Apple CarPlay/Android Auto, cruise control, day time running lights, front collision mitigation and lane departure warning.

Stepping up to 3 and 4 adds more kit and more money. The First Edition will be the hardest to find and the easiest to see. Limited to 250 vehicles, it includes Mitsubishi's diamond red metallic paint finish, First Edition badging and styling highlights.

Technologies available on the Eclipse include smartphone connectivity whereby information from your iPhone is displayed on a seven-inch screen but a word of warning – no smart phone means no sat nav or on-the-go information. Other techie stuff – not dependent on phone ownership – includes forward collision mitigation, lane departure warning, blind spot warning, and adaptive cruise control.

Clearly, the competitively priced, well-specified Eclipse is going to take some of the shine off other manufacturers' sales figures. Just how much remains to be seen.

Customers can now buy new cars entirely online see: [www.buy.mitsubishi-cars.co.uk](http://www.buy.mitsubishi-cars.co.uk)

## New MGs come with at least a five-year warranty



The MG ZS leads the way

The entire MG range now comes with its most comprehensive warranty packages ever, with all new MGs receiving at least five years of cover as standard, providing customers with peace-of-mind motoring long after they have driven out of the showroom.

The brand-new Compact-SUV, the MG ZS, leads the way with a seven year/80,000-mile manufacturer warranty. Transferable to any new owner before the limit is reached, the highly-competitive package also guarantees genuine replacement MG parts for the remainder of the agreement.

The rest of the MG range also benefits from enhanced warranty packages.

Announced at the start of the year, the MG3 Supermini saw its warranty extended from three years to five years/60,000 miles, offering a further incentive to purchase this stylish car.

The spacious SUV, the MG GS, is also supported by a five year/80,000 miles warranty. By offering at least a five year warranty across the range, MG offers longer warranties on its cars than most other manufacturers, going well beyond with a seven year warranty on the ZS.

Daniel Gregorious, head of sales and marketing at MG Motor UK, said: "We believe in the quality of our cars and we always put our customers at the heart of everything we do. That's why our range now have longer warranties, proving that MG cars are not just great value for money but also reliable and well built too".

## Jaguar creates bespoke XJ for Iron Maiden drummer



Jaguar has presented Iron Maiden drummer Nicko McBrain with a bespoke XJ at the Geneva Motor Show this week.

The custom-built car begins a series of celebrations for the model's 50th anniversary, and represents a collaboration between McBrain and engineers at Jaguar Land Rover Classic Works in Coventry.

Together, the car represents more than 3,500 man hours of work, while over 4,000 parts have been replaced or refinished. A variety of upgrades have also been included to bring the XJ firmly up-to-date.

McBrain said: "This is my ultimate XJ – my third, and lovingly named 'Johnny 3'. It has been a true labour of love between Jaguar Classic and myself.

"I'm so excited by its completion and especially to be showing it at Geneva – it really is a Greatest Hits edition and to me it defines what the Jaguar XJ is all about. It's a credit to the craftsmanship of the Jaguar Classic team.

We couldn't have timed it better, this being the 50th anniversary of XJ – my favourite of all Jaguars."

The exterior of the car features unique front and rear bumpers, while the wheel arches have been flared and re-profiled in order to fit 18-inch wire wheels. The rear suspension has also been revised, and adjustable dampers have been included too.

A 4.2-litre in-line six-cylinder engine sits under the bonnet, while machined quad exhaust pipes sit at the rear of the car. The powerplant even features three two-inch SU carburettors from an E-Type, too.

Inside, the car benefits from modern door sealing for better noise insulation, while the seats are hand-trimmed in 'Pimento Red' leather. The car's pedals are inspired by those found on a drum kit.

Many components have been carried over from McBrain's first-ever XJ too, including the iconic leaping Jaguar bonnet mascot and the original ignition keys.



# Vauxhall's go-faster Insignia GSi

Vauxhall's performance variant of its Insignia is in showrooms now and will cost from £33,375.

The Insignia GSi is 160kg lighter than its predecessor, the Insignia VXR, and is available in both Grand Sport and Sports Tourer body styles.

The new model is available with a choice of two engines: a 2.0-litre turbocharged petrol unit and a 2.0-litre biturbo diesel.

As far as performance figures are concerned, the petrol power plant produces 256bhp and 400Nm of torque, while the diesel unit develops 207bhp and 480Nm of torque. Power is sent to all four wheels via an eight-speed automatic gearbox.

In Grand Sport guise, the Insignia GSi can complete the sprint from 0-60mph in as little as 6.9 seconds, and will hit a 155mph top speed. Brembo brakes ensure the car has sufficient stopping power to match that of the engine.

CO2 emissions range between 192g/km and 199g/km depending on body style and engine choice.

Both petrol and diesel versions of the Grand Sport variant are priced from £33,375, while the more practical Sports Tourer estate configuration is available from £34,875.

Style-wise, the Insignia GSi benefits from LED headlights, chrome air intakes, sporty front and rear bumpers, side sills and a large rear spoiler on Grand Sport models.

Large 20-inch alloys fill the car's wheel arches, which are shod in sticky Michelin Sport Pilot 4 tyres.

Moving into the cabin, customers will find leather-upholstered sports seats up front, aluminium pedals, a Bose sound system and



The car has large 20-inch alloys



an eight-inch touchscreen that controls the infotainment system and navigation.

The Insignia GSi also gains Vauxhall's FlexRide system that allows the driver to adjust the steering, damping, gear change points and stability programming by selecting one of four different driving modes.

Vauxhall developed the new Insignia GSi at the famed Nurburgring in Germany, and has claimed that it is their fastest model to ever lap the iconic circuit – although no time has been released.



In Grand Sport guise, the Insignia GSi can complete the sprint from 0-60mph in as little as 6.9 seconds, and will hit a 155mph top speed

Black Country  
Vauxhall Dealers **Star Buys**

**20 NEW  
VAUXHALLS  
MUST GO**

**SAVE UP TO £5225**

ONE OFF DEALS! HURRY, WHEN THEY'RE GONE, THEY'RE GONE



**VAUXHALL CORSA**  
**SAVE UP TO £5225**

**Corsa Limited Edition 1.4 75PS 3dr**  
Choice of colours FROM **£11695**  
RRP £16485 **SAVE £4790**

**Corsa Ltd Edition 1.4 90PS 3dr** Royal Blue  
RRP £16445 **SAVE £3950** NOW **£12495**

**Corsa Red Edition 1.4T 150PS Ltd Edition 3dr** Red  
RRP £18720 **SAVE £5225** NOW **£13495**

**Corsa Ltd Edition 1.4 75PS 3dr** Quantum Grey  
RRP £16765 **SAVE £4770** NOW **£11995**

**Corsa Ltd Edition 1.4 90PS 3dr** Satin Steel Grey  
RRP £17010 **SAVE £4015** NOW **£12995**

**Corsa Ltd Edition 1.4 90PS 3dr** Summit White  
RRP £16485 **SAVE £3690** NOW **£12795**

**Corsa Ltd Edition 1.4 75PS 3dr** Lava Red  
RRP £16465 **SAVE £4170** NOW **£12295**

**Corsa Ltd Edition 1.4 75PS 3dr** Persian Blue  
RRP £16765 **SAVE £4770** NOW **£11995**

**Corsa Ltd Edition 1.4 75PS 3dr** Royal Blue  
RRP £16485 **SAVE £4990** NOW **£11495**

**Corsa Ltd Edition 1.4 90PS 3dr** Lava Red  
RRP £17030 **SAVE £4235** NOW **£12795**



**CROSSLAND  
X**  
**SAVE  
£4965**

**Crossland X Elite 1.6 99PS 5dr**  
Persian Blue NOW **£16495**  
RRP £21460 **SAVE £4965**



**INSIGNIA  
SPORTSTOURER**  
**SAVE  
£1250**

**Insignia Sports Tourer Elite Nav 2.0 170PS 5dr**  
Deep Moon Blue NOW **£24995**  
RRP £26245 **SAVE £1250**



**MOKKA  
X**  
**SAVE UP  
£3385**

**Mokka X Design Nav 1.6 115PS S/S 5dr**  
Royal Blue NOW **£16295**  
RRP £19095 **SAVE £2800**

**Mokka X Design Nav 1.6 115PS S/S 5dr**  
Summit White NOW **£15995**  
RRP £19380 **SAVE £3385**

**DON'T MISS OUT  
CALL YOUR NEAREST  
DEALERSHIP NOW!**

**YOUR LOCAL BLACK COUNTRY VAUXHALL DEALERS**

## Halesowen Motor House

Dudley Rd, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3NH  
0121 503 0001 [www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk](http://www.halesowenmotorhouse.co.uk)

## T Wall Garages

High Street, Pensnett, Kingswinford DY6 8XB  
01384 288333 [www.twall.co.uk](http://www.twall.co.uk)

## Stourbridge Motor House

High Street, Amblecote, Nr. Stourbridge DY8 4DG  
01384 447970 [www.stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk](http://www.stourbridgemotorhouse.co.uk)

## Dudley Motor Company

Trindle Rd, Dudley, West Midlands DY2 7AY  
01384 454100 [www.dudleymotorco.co.uk](http://www.dudleymotorco.co.uk)



# T Wall Ford EXCLUSIVE

# CHOOSE A SUPERB NEW 18 REG KUGA ST-LINE



- Spec includes: 18" 5x2-spoke dark machined alloy wheels ■ Full body styling kit
- ST-Line unique headlight & fog light bezels ■ Black finish roof rails ■ Sports suspension
  - Front parking sensors ■ Enhanced Active Park Assist
  - Aluminium-finish foot pedals ■ Leather-trimmed steering wheel with red stitching
  - ST-Line unique gearshift knob with red stitching

# SAVE £4836

OFF RRP

**£3718\*** **£279\*** **1.2%**  
DEPOSIT PER MONTH x38 APR REPRESENTATIVE\*

**Last two remaining - 2 years free servicing offer**

**Order yours NOW for March delivery**

REPRESENTATIVE EXAMPLE: FORD KUGA ST-LINE 1.5 120PS DIESEL MANUAL\*

38 monthly payments	Cash price	Customer deposit	Amount of credit	Charge for credit	Total amount payable	GMFV (optional final payment)	Mileage per annum	Excess mileage charge (pence per mile)	Term	1.2% APR
£279.01	£24,429.00	£3,718.00	£20,711.00	£573.38	£25,022.38	£10,682.00	6,000	8.0	39 months	Representative*

**0% APR** FINANCE AVAILABLE\*

**Don't miss this amazing value New 18 Reg opportunity - Call us now.**

www.twallford.co.uk

# TWall Ford

High Street, Pensnett, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 8XB  
Tel: 01384 282 900



Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Highest: FORD Kuga 1.5 EcoBoost (182PS), A6-AWD: Urban 30.1 (9.4), Extra Urban 44.8 (6.3), Combined 37.7 (7.5), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 173(g/km). Lowest: FORD Kuga 1.5 TDCi (120PS), W6: urban 57.6 (4.9), extra urban 67.3 (4.2), combined 64.2 (4.4). Official CO<sub>2</sub> emission 115g/km. Retail only. Subject to availability. Prices & details correct at time of publishing & are subject to change without notice. \*Finance subject to status to UK residents aged 18 or over through Ford Credit. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. An Excess Mileage Charge will be payable if you decide to return the vehicle & the agreed annual mileage has been exceeded. Finance example figures are based on 6,000 miles per annum for illustration purposes & may vary depending on circumstances. Please note calls may be recorded for training & quality purposes. Details correct at time of publication, E&OE.

# T Wall Ford USED CAR SALE

**BIG CHOICE · GREAT QUALITY · LOW PRICES**



**14 14 Mazda MX-5  
1.8i Sport Venture  
Edition**

Grey, 20972 Miles

**OUR PRICE**  
**£11500**

Spec includes:  
• ABS • Alarm • Alloys Wheels  
• Climate Control • Leather Seats  
• Front Fog Lights • Sat Nav



**14 14 Audi TT 2.0  
FSI Quattro  
Stronic Auto**

White, 36,619 Miles

**OUR PRICE**  
**£17500**

Spec includes:  
• ABS • Alloys Wheels  
• Rear Park Assist • Half Leather Seats  
• Front Fog Lights • PAS



**15 15  
Volkswagen Up  
1.0 Street Up**

Black, 11,822 Miles

**OUR PRICE**  
**£8000**

Spec includes:  
• ABS • Air Con • Front Fog Lights  
• Sat Nav • PAS • Heated Seats  
• Trip Computer



**15 65 Honda HR-V  
1.6 I-Dtec Ex**

Grey, 34,039 Miles

**OUR PRICE**  
**£16000**

Spec includes:  
• ABS • Alloys Wheels  
• Cruise Control • Leather Seats  
• Reverse Parking Aid • PAS  
• Roof Rails

17 67	Fiesta 1.0 EcoBoost, 5dr, Choice Of Colours Delivery Mileage From.....	<b>£14318</b>
16 66	Fiesta 1.0 140 Zetec S, Big Spec, Blue, 8949 Miles.....	<b>£11999</b>
14 14	Fiesta Zetec Auto, 1.0 Eco, White 25498 Miles.....	<b>£9499</b>
15 65	Fiesta ST2, Blue, 12363 Miles.....	<b>£12499</b>
16 16	Fiesta 1.0 Zetec S Red Edition, Red 19499 Miles.....	<b>£10499</b>
15 65	Fiesta 1.0 Titanium Powershift, Sat Nav, 5dr, Grey, 9739 Miles.....	<b>£11499</b>
16 16	Fiesta 1.0 140 Red Edition, Red, 17550 Miles.....	<b>£10999</b>
16 66	Fiesta 1.0 EcoBoost, Sat Nav, 5dr, Blue 7007 Miles.....	<b>£9999</b>
14 64	Fiesta 1.0 125 Titanium, Big Spec, Blue, 36166 Miles.....	<b>£8999</b>
15 15	Fiesta 1.0 Zetec, 5dr, Red, 25630 Miles.....	<b>£8499</b>
14 14	Fiesta 1.0 Zetec, 5dr, Red, 32387 Miles.....	<b>£8499</b>
11 11	Fiesta 1.4 Zetec, 5dr, Green, 56145 Miles.....	<b>£5999</b>

14 63	Nissan Leaf Tekna Auto, Top Spec, Red, 6410 Miles.....	<b>£11499</b>
15 15	Clio 1.5 Dynamique, 5dr, Black, 10101 Miles.....	<b>£8999</b>
15 65	Suzuki Swift 1.6 Sport, White, 5dr, Navigation, 21127 Miles.....	<b>£8499</b>
15 15	Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 Se, 5dr, 24848 Miles.....	<b>£7999</b>
15 15	VW Up 1.0 Street, 5dr, 11822 Miles.....	<b>£7999</b>
12 12	Mazda 1.3 Tamura, 5dr, 25248 Miles.....	<b>£5499</b>
11 61	Fiat 500 Abarth, White, 41040 Miles.....	<b>£7499</b>
15 15	Ka 1.2 Titanium, Black, 10392 Miles.....	<b>£6999</b>
12 12	Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 Sxi, 5dr, Grey, 30134 Miles.....	<b>£5999</b>
15 65	Mondeo 2.0 Hybrid Auto, Red, 26584 Miles.....	<b>£15999</b>
15 15	Mondeo 2.0 Titanium, White, 30633 Miles.....	<b>£13499</b>
14 64	Focus 1.6 Titanium Dsl Navi, Blue, 26535 Miles.....	<b>£9999</b>

14 64	Focus 1.6 Zetec Auto, Red, 28149 Miles.....	<b>£8499</b>
16 16	Focus 2.0 EcoBoost St, Top Spec, Black, 15349 Miles.....	<b>£17999</b>
16 66	Corsa VXR, Red, 21749 Miles.....	<b>£12499</b>
15 15	Fiesta ST3 Mountune, White, 25445 Miles.....	<b>£12499</b>
14 14	Mazda MX-5 1.8 Venture Edition, Grey 20972 Miles.....	<b>£11499</b>
16 16	Torneo Connect, 1.0 EcoBoost, Gold, 18542 Miles.....	<b>£13999</b>
15 65	Honda HRV 1.6 Dsl Ex, Top Spec, Grey, 34039 Miles.....	<b>£15999</b>
14 14	Audi Tt Quattro Black Edition, White, 36619 Miles.....	<b>£17499</b>
15 65	Mercedes C Class C200 Se, White, 45691 Miles.....	<b>£15999</b>
13 63	Mercedes B Class, Big Spec, B180 Cdi, Silver.....	<b>£10499</b>
14 64	Mercedes A Class A200 Cdi Auto, Big Spec, Red, 20674 Miles.....	<b>£14999</b>
12 62	Audi TT 1.8 TFSI, S Line, White, 34073 Miles.....	<b>£13499</b>

**Come to T Wall for a fantastic choice of top quality used cars - Call us now for more details**

Offers subject to stock availability, terms and conditions. Pictures for illustration purposes only. Details correct at time of publication E&OE.

# TWall Ford

High Street, Pensnett, Kingswinford, West Midlands DY6 8XB  
Tel: 01384 282 900

See all of our stock online at:  
**www.twallford.co.uk**



Most Allspace models sold in the UK are likely to have all-wheel drive

# Plenty of space for larger families in Tiguan Allspace

By Ian Donaldson

**There's lots of life left in diesels; just ask the people likely to buy a new seven seat Tiguan Allspace, the stretched SUV from Volkswagen.**

For the predicted best seller in the range is forecast as the model with a diesel doing the work, despite a similarly powerful petrol version available for less money.

But cost is not likely to weigh heavy on the purchaser of a Tiguan Allspace, pitched at £2,645 more than the shorter, five-seat Tiguan but with a higher specification and absence of a truly entry level model.

Instead, the Allspace is going to appeal to larger families with a couple of children no more than 5ft 2ins tall – the maximum height VW reckons will comfortably slip through the extended rear side doors and find long journey contentment in row three.

Pushing front and rear seats further apart and stretching the bodywork by 215mm means there's room for a couple of children in the new third row, and still useful luggage space behind them.

With every seat occupied there is 230 litres of luggage space, a bit more than in the boot of the just superceded VW Polo hatchback. With the third row folded flat this



**Across the board is an eight inch touchscreen**

increases to 700 litres (non Allspace Tiguan, 615 litres) and to a positively commercial sounding 1,775 litres (1,655 litres) with rows two and three flattened.

The middle row slides back and forth by 180mm to give extra legroom or more luggage capacity. There are going to be some lively family discussions over this one.

You'd have to line up both versions side by side to spot the difference, apart from the obvious extra length of the Allspace. In fact, the bonnet of the newcomer is a touch higher at the front and there are modest grooves in the roof, versus a flat metal panel in the shorter Tiguan.

Most Allspace models sold in the UK are likely to have all-wheel drive – showing that owners are serious about the practicality they need in a family car.

An option is a differently shaped front bumper that allows the Allspace to tackle steeper approaches; it also includes extra underbody protection for some action off-road.

Prices start at £29,270 for a two-wheel drive Tiguan Allspace SE Navigation with 1.4 litre petrol engine and manual gearbox and top out with the £39,965 asked for a 2.0 litre diesel with 4Motion all-wheel drive, automatic gears and a comprehensive SEL specification.

A third trim level – R-Line – brings sports suspension, 20ins alloys, roof spoiler and sporty body pack and alloy look splashes inside. It arrives later in 2018 at a yet-to-be announced price.

Every UK bound Tiguan Allspace has the third row of seats and an electric tailgate that can be triggered by waggling a foot under the rear bumper (useful if you've got your hands full of supermarket shopping).

Also on the spec sheet across the board is an eight inch touchscreen, satellite navigation, DAB radio, CD player (an increasing rarity) and Bluetooth connection for a couple of phones.

Power outputs range from 150 horsepower petrol and diesels to a 240 horsepower twin-turbo diesel with the choice of six-speed manual or seven-speed DSG automatic transmissions.

The likely best selling 150hp diesel with two-wheel drive (from £31,550) is good for 131g/km in the emissions test; the all-wheel drive version (£33,115) ups this to 153g/km, while touching a 123mph top speed and sprinting to 62mph in 9.9 seconds.

Out on the road it has all the characteristics that make modern VWs such solid sellers, from a no-nonsense approach to driving (clear dials, slick switches, no fripperies) to a firmly supportive ride and enough performance to keep any sensible owner happy – and Tiguan Allspace owners will be sensible people.

## Oak Garage.co.uk

Sales Line Open Tonight Call Steve 07747 633329

Only 200 Yards From  
Merry Hill Shopping Centre:

### Low Mileage

14 Nissan Micra Hatchback 1.2 Acenta Red Only 6000 Miles	£6,795
65 Renault Clio 1.5 dCi 90 Dynamique S Nav Auto Red 9000 Miles	£10,995
15 Mitsubishi Asx Estate 1.6 ZC Brown Only 10000 Miles	£10,795
66 Vauxhall Zafira Tourer 1.4T Design Silver Only 10000 Miles	£13,495
64 Kia Soul Diesel 1.6 CRDi Connect Auto Silver Only 10000 Miles	£10,995
Citroen	
62 Citroen Berlingo Multispace 1.6 e-HDi 90 XTR EGS6 Blue 24k	£7,995
62 Citroen C4 Grand Picasso 1.6 e-HDi Platinum EGS6 White 21k	£9,495
07 Citroen C6 Diesel 2.7 HDi V6 Exclusive 4dr Auto Grey 66k	£7,995
07 Citroen C6 Diesel 2.7 HDi V6 Exclusive 4dr Auto Grey 71k	£7,495
64 Citroen Grand C4 Picasso 1.6 e-HDi 115 Exclusive Blue17k	£11,995
64 Citroen Grand C4 Picasso 1.6 e-HDi 115 Exclusive ETG6 Blue 13k	£12,995
64 Citroen Grand C4 Picasso 1.6 e-HDi 115 Exclusive+ ETG6 Blue 23k	£13,495
15 Citroen Grand C4 Picasso 1.6 e-HDi 115 VTR+ Red 20k	£11,995
65 Citroen Grand C4 Picasso Diesel 1.6 BlueHdi VTR+ Black 36k	£11,495
Ford	
64 Ford B-max Diesel Hatchback 1.6 TDCi Zetec Blue 16k	£8,695
64 Ford C-max Diesel Estate 1.6 TDCi Zetec Black 17k	£8,995
64 Ford C-max Diesel Estate 1.6 TDCi Zetec Blue 18k	£8,995
64 Ford C-max Diesel Estate 1.6 TDCi Zetec Blue29k	£8,995
64 Ford C-max Diesel Estate 1.6 TDCi Zetec Grey 34k	£8,995
08 Ford C-max Estate 1.8 Zetec Red 57k	£3,795
12 Ford Focus Estate 1.6 125 Zetec Powershift Red 31k	£7,495
64 Ford Grand C-max Diesel Estate 1.6 TDCi Zetec White 32k	£9,995
64 Ford S-max Diesel Estate 2.0 TDCi 163 Titanium Blue 33k	£13,995

### Kia

10 Kia Picanto Hatchback 1.1 Graphite Silver 43k	£3,495
12 Kia Venga Diesel 1.6 CRDi EcoDynamics 3 Red 37k	£6,795

### Nissan

64 Nissan Juke Hatchback 1.2 DiG-T Tekna Black 28k	£10,495
64 Nissan Note Hatchback 1.2 Acenta Premium Red 38k	£6,995
09 Nissan Note Hatchback 1.6 Acenta 5dr Auto Grey 52k	£4,795

### Peugeot

61 Peugeot 107 Hatchback 1.0 Urban Blue 36k	£3,995
65 Peugeot 3008 Diesel Estate 1.6 HDi 120 Allure Grey 17k	£13,495
60 Peugeot 3008 Diesel Estate 1.6 HDi 112 Sport Black 74k	£4,995
14 Peugeot 3008 Diesel Estate 1.6 HDi Active White 24k	£8,995
09 Peugeot 308 Diesel Hatchback 1.6 HDi 90 S Silver 91k	£2,995
62 Peugeot Partner Teepee S 1.6 HDi Blue 39k With Access Ramp	£6,795

### Vauxhall

64 Vauxhall Agila Hatchback 1.2 VWT SE Auto Red 18k	£7,495
64 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 16v 115 Elite White 25k	£8,795
64 Vauxhall Astra 1.6 i VWT 16v 115 Elite Red 13k	£9,295
64 Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi [140] ecoFLEX Design Green 26k	£9,495
64 Vauxhall Insignia Sports Tourer 2.0 CDTi Design Blue 29k	£9,295
61 Vauxhall Meriva 1.7 CDTi 16V Exclusiv Auto Brown 21k	£5,495
64 Vauxhall Meriva Estate 1.4T 16V Exclusiv Auto Blue 26k	£7,795
14 Vauxhall Zafira 1.7 CDTi ecoFLEX Design Nav [110] Grey 26k	£8,495

### Others

58 BMW 1 Series Diesel Coupe 123d M Sport 2dr White 85k	£6,995
63 Chevrolet Spark Hatchback 1.2i LTZ Black 43k	£4,495
59 Honda Jazz 1.4 i-VTEC EX 5dr i-SHIFT Auto Blue 30k	£5,995
Hyundai IX35 Diesel Estate 1.7 CRDi SE 2WD Black 27k	£11,495
64 Mitsubishi Mirage Hatchback 1.2 3 5dr CVT Green 23k	£6,795
64 Renault Scenic 1.5 dCi Dynamique TomTom Energy Red 26k	£8,995
14 Skoda Octavia Diesel 1.6 TDI CR Elegance Brown 42k	£9,495
09 Toyota Auris Hatchback 1.6 V-Matic TR Blue 48k	£3,995
64 Volkswagen Golf Cabriolet 1.6 TDI BlueMotion Tech SE Blue 49k	£9,995
13 Volkswagen Tiguan 2.0 TDi BlueMotion Tech SE DSG Black 61k	£10,995

**Specialists In  
One Owner, Full Service History,  
Ex Motability Vehicles  
Drive Away This Weekend**

We're an RAC Approved Dealer: Buy from us with confidence



**www.oakgarage.co.uk**

Unit 1, Sterling Park, Brierley Hill DY5 1TB

**Tel: 01384 906030**

Opening Times: Mon-Thu: 9-6, Fri-Sat: 9-5, Sun: 10-4



# Local Specialists

## Blinds & Curtains

### Blinds4Less

Choose From a fantastic range!

- Pleated -Venetians
- Romans -Curtains
- Verticals -Awnings
- Rollers -Shutters

**"New range of chainless verticals and night and day rollers."**

Give us a try before you buy!

Contact us on  
01543 226104  
07989 588728  
Blinds4lessdirect.com

## Builders

### C ETHERIDGE BUILDING SERVICES

- Extensions
- Alterations
- Roofing
- Landscaping
- Block paving
- General property maintenance.

For a FREE quote call Chris  
01384 635627  
07989 738732

## Decorating

### PAINTER & DECORATOR

Professional and reliable

Fully insured  
O.A.P. Discounts

For a free  
quote call Carl

0121 561 1881  
or 07532 200591

## Electricians

### R&D ELECTRICS

All Domestic  
Electrical work  
including Alarms  
N.I.C.E.I.C.  
Registered

**FREE QUOTES**

Call Ron on:  
07773 645854  
or 01384 422182

### MB electric

All domestic and commercial  
electrical works undertaken  
Home rewiring from £800

For a high quality  
local service call:  
01384 660398  
07939 503905  
mbelectric.co.uk

## Plumbing & Heating

### KEN PERRY

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER  
Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing  
and Immersion Heaters.  
Multi Point Water Heaters,  
Landlord's Gas Certificates,  
Boilers changed  
Guild of Master Craftsmen  
Gas Safe Registered  
STOURBRIDGE 392284

## Double Glazing

### MISTY UNITS REPLACED

Buy Direct from the manufacturer. Est. 1999

**Reduce heat loss by up to 75%**

Also upgrade your existing double glazed units to Pilkington Energikare, it will help to reduce the amount of heat lost through your windows by up to 75%, lock, handles, hinges.



**WITH A 10 YEAR  
GUARANTEE AND  
FITTING SERVICE  
AVAILABLE**

### HIGH SECURITY DOOR BARRELS NOW BEING FITTED

WE HAVE A NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

**01384 918383**

Delph Glazed Units

Unit 32 Delph Rd Ind Est (by the tank), Brierley Hill DY5 2UA

Visit our new website

www.delphglazedunits.co.uk

Mobile: 07887 520599

### Misted Sealed Units?

### Black Country Glazing

Contact US for a FREE quote!

Manufacturers  
& Installers of  
windows, doors &  
conservatories

'A' Rated Windows as Standard  
**10 YEAR GUARANTEE**

Please see our customer reviews  
on either Homepro or Which

Energy efficient windows  
that won't cost the earth

Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ

Est 1987 **01384 566100**

www.blackcountryglazing.com

## Driveways

### ACE PAVING SERVICES LTD

City and Guilds Streetworks Approved

- Tarmacing • Concrete Imprint • Block Paving and Patios • Landscaping
- Streetworks • Curb dropping • Turfing • Fencing and Decking
- Power Washing • 5 year guarantee FREE estimate • 15 years experience
- Fully insured • Resinbond Drives.

01384 847115 | 0121 7692193 | 07448031419

Web: www.acepavingservicesltd.co.uk

Email: acepavingservices@outlook.com

Cradley Enterprise Centre, Maypole Fields,  
Halesowen B63 2QB

### Fascias, Soffits & Guttering

### Roberts Guttering Services

20% Discount

Local Specialists

Dry Verge Units Fitted

For All aspects of

cleaning & repair call

Robert for a

FREE quote on

07767869792

We Fit UPVC

Soffits & Fascias

## Gardening

### SEDGLEY TREE CARE

Professional Tree Surgeon

All aspects of tree work undertaken

• CONTRACT TREE CLIMBER

• TREE REMOVAL

• CROWN REDUCTION

• STUMP GRINDING

• HEDGE TRIMMING

• GARDEN CLEARANCES

ALL WASTE REMOVED

NPTC QUALIFIED

07746813358 or

01902 659692

FOR A FREE QUOTE

## Driveways

### CT DRIVEWAYS

FOR ALL YOUR SURFACING &  
TARMAC WORK

- Paving and Driveways
- Block Bricks and Tarmac Repairs
- New Drives
- Forecourts
- Car Parks
- Trading Estates

Proud members of  
**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters

For all enquiries please call

Tel: 01384 270740 Mobile: 07587 954073

email: ctdriveways@mail.com

website: www.ct-driveways.co.uk

### DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS

Block Paving and Tarmac  
Drives • Red Tarmac  
Car Parks • Resurfacing  
5 Year Guarantee  
On All Work  
Free Quotations and Advice

Checkatrade

Where reputation matters

Tel: 01384 79900 • 07583 170190

www.discountdriveways.co.uk

## Fencing

### Fencing & Gates

All Garden Work Undertaken

- Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling
- Turfing • Garden Clearance

**NO JOB TOO SMALL**

Manufacturers of all Concrete Products

eg. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards

All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken

Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)

Call Steve on

01384 242891 or 07970 300586

## Garage Doors

GARADOR - CARDALE - SELECT - WESSEX - HENDERSON - HORMANN  
SECTIONALS - UP & OVERS - SIDE-HINGED - ROLLERS - MOTORISED

**RELIADOR GARAGE DOORS**

SALES - INSTALLATION - REPAIRS

**01384 386909**

**07858 299305**

www.reliador.co.uk - reliadorgd@gmail.com

CALL US NOW FOR A FREE QUOTE

## Gardening



- Tree Surgeon Specialist
- Hedges Pruned/Shaped • Stump Grinding/Root Removal
- Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
- Fencing • Turfing • Concreting • Driveways & Patios
- Plus Much More Call Now for a No Obligation quotation

WWW.ROWANGROUP.CO.UK

01384 213644 or 07733 226568

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor,

N.P.T.C. qualified, Public Liability Insurance (£5 million)

All staff C.R.B. Certified



## Landscapers

### LANDSCAPING

Fencing, Patios and Driveways, Turfing  
and Artificial Grass, Retaining Walls,  
Pond Installation &  
Garden Clearance

CALL US ON:

07817 553 346

01384 387 016



info@terrafirma-arb.co.uk

www.terrafirma-arb.co.uk

## Plumbing & Heating

### P.S. Heating & Plumbing

Combi Boiler change from £950

Specialists in Baxi / Baxi / Worcester Bosch / Vaillant Boilers plus many more

SPECIAL OFFERS ON FULL HEATING SYSTEMS

**NATURAL & LPG GAS**

Fully Insured up to £2 million

Free Quotation

**07961 140885**

safe 301067

## Gardening

**LINDOPS  
LANDSCAPES**  
All Landscape Work Undertaken  
No Job Too Small or Too Big  
**FREE QUOTATIONS**  
All aspects of Tree Surgery,  
Block Paving, Fencing, etc  
Est. 25 Years  
Ex. Botanical Gardener  
**0121-421 2858**  
**07706 - 747960**

## Rubbish Removal

### A.J.B. Waste Management

Try us for a FREE no obligation quotation

FOR A CHEAP RUBBISH REMOVAL 6 DAYS

Small jobs NOT A PROBLEM

We load, No Skips, Free quotation

GARDEN, HOUSEHOLD, SHED, GARAGE,

WHITE GOODS, HOUSE CLEARANCES FURNITURE.

You can also bring your own waste

to our fully licensed transfer station

CALL TODAY AND LETS TALK RUBBISH

**Tel 0121 520 7731**

## Skip Hire

### MT SKIPS & GRAB HIRE

Save ££££

All size skips and all areas covered

Same day delivery faster than

A phone call!!!!

Open 7 days a week

07920 88 57 74 or 01384 24 09 56

SCRAP CARS  
REMOVED FOR FREE

YOU FILL 'EM  
WE MT 'EM

\*T&C's apply

FreeAds

IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY

\*Advertise any item FREE up to the value of £250

go to: www.expressandstar.com/bookanad

FreeAds

## Landscapers

### CARDINAL LANDSCAPES

West Midlands

Specialists in Patios,

Driveways, Paths, Fencing,

Turfing, Decking and

Landscaping

Call now for a

FREE QUOTE

01902 562600 or

07539 887144

## Roofing

### Chatsworth ROOFING AND DRIVEWAYS

• Roof repairs

• Block paving • Tarmac

• Artificial grass

Local family business

**20% DISCOUNT**

**IN MARCH**

FREE quotations

Tel: 01384 469 661

Mobile: 07587 804 206

www.chatsworthroofinganddriveways.co.uk

### SELL IT FAST SELL IT LOCAL

HERE'S WHAT  
SOME OF OUR  
CUSTOMERS SAY

"The advert

started on the

Friday, sold on

the Saturday!"

Mr Betteley of Stafford

sold his Land Rover

Discovery using the 6

night Repeat for Free

Package

"Sold quickly

which was

great"

Mrs Burnside of

Essington sold her

Coachman Arms

Caravan using the 3

night Repeat for Free

Package

"I had to take

advantage of the free

repeat part of the

package but it's still

great that I

sold the car"

Mr Brown of Bilston sold

his Renault Clio using

the 6 night Repeat for

Free Package

**ONLY**

**£19.50**

**FOR 6 NIGHTS**

**PLUS**

**6 nights Free if**

**you do not sell!**

Includes one week online

and your local Chronicles

TELEPHONE -

01902 317878

ON LINE -

www.

expressandstar.

com/bookanad

IN PERSON -

At your local

Express & Star

office

Classified Ads

# Local Specialists



Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

Roofing

## M & M Roofing & Fascias

Est 2001

### Quality

- uPVC Fascias
- Soffits
- Guttering
- Cladding
- All aspects of roofing
- New roofs/repairs
- Flat roofs
- Tiling/slatting
- Dry verges
- Approved fibre glass installer

Also

### CONCRETE GUTTERING

Specialist removal  
Replacing with  
Modern low maintenance  
Upvc Fascias and Soffits



All work  
guaranteed  
with HomePro  
Insurance

Registered with



Membership  
No. 554518



No Free  
Gimmicks  
Family  
Business  
Local  
References  
if required

Giving homeowners peace of mind  
**ALWAYS FREE ADVICE  
AND QUOTATION**  
**Freephone 0800 799 9413**  
**Mob: 07906 724736**  
to speak to Mark

123 Amblecote Road, Brierley Hill,  
West Midlands DY5 2YD

Tree Surgeon

## TREE SURGEONS

11 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN ALL  
ASPECTS OF TREE MAINTENANCE &  
TREE FELLING, STUMP REMOVAL,  
HEDGE TRIMMING

CALL US ON:  
**07817 553 346**  
**01384 387 016**



info@terrafirma-arb.co.uk  
www.terrafirma-arb.co.uk

## ELITE PLASTICS

- Fascias • Soffits • Dry Verge
  - Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair
- Premium Products Expertly Fitted  
With Full Manufacture Guarantee.

For A Free Quote call  
**01384 468831 / 07985 575865**  
www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk

## SHOOT!

THE ONLY READ FOR REAL FANS  
EVERY MONDAY

Part of Express & Star Ltd

Express & Star

# Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

### Funeral Directors

**Wombourne**  
Funeral Services  
& Monumental Masons  
For your nearest branch  
call 01902 892635  
wombournefuneralservices.co.uk

### A TRADITION OF TRUST



"We are very pleased  
with the service  
offered by the  
Express & Star.  
Our business and  
advertising needs  
are always well met."

Wombourne  
Funeral Services.

For great business  
results call

**01902 319 191**

**Classified Ads**  
Brought to you by **Express & Star**

### J.T. BROOKES

Independent  
family run  
Funeral Directors  
24 hour service  
Brierley Hill 01384 77098  
Kingswinford 01384 296683  
Hagley 01562 888041

www.nedowning.co.uk

### Christadelphian

THE PROMISES OF GOD - THEIR  
RELEVANCE TODAY The  
promise to David, March 18, at  
6pm, The Community Centre,  
High Street, Kingswinford. Or  
write to The Dawn (ref:KCE) 5  
Station Road, Carlton, Notts.  
NG4 3AT for free information  
pack or ring 01384 886544 for  
recorded message.

## 1

Family

### Elderly & Disabled

**WORLD OF  
MOBILITY**  
Stourbridge's longest established  
Family Run Mobility Store  
Brettell Lane, Amblecote,  
Stourbridge DY8 4BS. Open Mon-Sat.  
**01384 378252**



### STAIRLIFT

Straight left hand stairlift,  
Handicare Simplicity. Fully  
assembled, can be seen  
working. Reason for sale,  
moved to bungalow.

Buyer to collect.  
£700.

07702 806671.

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned  
lifts from £799. New available.  
01952 405397/07837 273617

## 2 Leisure Time

### Caravans Wanted

LET US SELL YOUR CARAVAN/  
Motorhome for you and get the best  
possible price. Severn Valley  
Leisure, DY8 4HP. 01384 390183

### Caravans/ Motorhomes



BAILEY PEGASUS 462

2010, Vango Air tube porch  
awning, remote motor movers,  
ATC system, hitch and wheel  
locks. All the usual refinements  
of a top class touring caravan.

£8,750.

07538 651604.

### Caravan Sales

A CHOICE OF CARAVANS FOR  
sale from £1995 to £6995, access-  
ory shop, service, repairs, storage.  
Severn Valley Leisure Stour-  
bridge, DY8 4HP 01384 390183  
www.severnvalleyleisure.com

### Self Catering Holidays

**BURNHAM-ON-SEA**  
Self Catering Holiday  
Apartments  
Disabled Facilities  
Pet Friendly  
**01278 794111**  
www.GoSomerset.co.uk

### Travel Abroad

READERS ARE REMINDED  
to check with any Advertiser  
that their holiday costs are fully  
covered by a recognised bonding or  
insurance scheme.

### Yorkshire

### YORKSHIRE DALES

Meadow Holidays  
Country Cottages / Suites in Wensleydale  
"Weeks from £209 per couple"  
"Weekends just £99 per couple"  
Families Welcome  
Walk in scenic countryside by waterfalls or  
visit historic market towns with friendly inns  
Brochure (24hrs) 01969 624145  
email: ritas@meadowholidays.com  
www.meadowholidays.com

### Sports & Leisure

## Free Ads

IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY  
To sell items upto £250.  
Online at  
bookanad.  
expressandstar.co.uk

### what's on

### Antique Fairs

VINTAGE ANTIQUE / Collectables  
Fair, Coven Memorial Hall WV9  
5DL, Sunday 18 March. Est 1979.  
01384 277373 / 07938 123040.

### Book Fair

BOOK FAIR Kinver Community  
Centre, DY7 6ER, inc postcards.  
Sunday 18th March. Est 1979.  
Waverley, Next Antique Fair APR  
1ST. Home made refreshments.  
0121 550 4351.

## 3 Home & Services

### Collectables & Memorabilia

FANTASTIC COLLECTION of Guinness  
Memorabilia over 15 items,  
prices from £7, please ring for more  
details. 07548 684497.

### Furniture

SETTEES, 2 seater and 3 seater, 3  
months old, cost over £1,000,  
immaculate condition, check material,  
£400. 01384 348971.

### In Your Garden

### LAWN TRACTOR 22 HP.

With collector.  
As new. Unused.  
Cost £4,000  
will accept £1,995.  
Can deliver.  
07710 169150.

### Items For Sale

ADVERTISERS ARE  
REMINDING  
That the Business  
Advertisements (Disclosure)  
Order of 1977 requires that  
advertisements must clearly  
differentiate between Private  
and Trade.

CORRUGATED GALVANISED  
Sheets. New, £3 can deliver. Also  
box profile and PVC/polycarb.  
David Broxton on 07834 489558.

ELECTRIC FIRE Danville Optimyst  
Coal Effect. Only 16 months old.  
Cost £440 sell £150 for quick sale.  
01902 820973.

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

### Items Wanted

### A BEST CASH PRICE



FOR ALL RAILWAY  
COLLECTIONS  
Any gauge or age  
Hornby/Bachmann/Bowman/  
Roundhouse/Graham/Farsh/  
any live steam. Also Die Cast,  
Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.  
01384 836219/07891 713547  
thetrainmaster67@  
hotmail.com



### A BEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR DIE CAST CARS / LORRIES

Britains, Corgi, Dinky,  
Spot on, Tri-ang, Danbury Mint  
and Mamod Engines.  
Best prices paid.  
Any condition.  
Collections bought.  
Telephone 01922 327897  
or 07976 691563.

COINS MEDALS bought by collector,  
happy to view anywhere.  
01384 273396.

READERS ARE ADVISED to  
carefully consider all of their options  
before agreeing to the sale of any  
of their items.  
SPECTRUM GAMES Wanted, plus  
any Spectrum 128k+2 computer  
wanted also any old Crash or your  
Sinclair Magazines. 01902 892918.

### WANTED

J40 Pedal car, vintage moped,  
Sinclair C5, harp. Vintage  
vending / slot machines, juke  
box, anything old, Old fire arms.  
Dudley 07930 949337.

### Loans

READERS ARE REMINDING  
that they may require professional  
advice before entering into  
obligations.

specialists at  
your service

Aerials

**AA DIGITAL  
AERIALS**  
AERIALS FITTED FROM £79.99  
01902 858191 • 01384 429166  
01543 439095 • 01922 716029

A AERIAL AND SKY SPECIALIST  
Digital aerials, CCTV cameras, TV  
wall mount fitted. 07850 330251.

## CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!



"I am very pleased  
with the response  
I get from my  
Classified  
Advertising  
Contract"

Steve -  
AA Digital Aerials

For great business  
results call  
**01902 319 191**

**Classified Ads**  
Brought to you by **Express & Star**

### Alarms/Security

## PREMIER ALARMS

Supplied and Fitted £249  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!

Call: 0121 601 9791

### Building Services

**Davies & Son Builders**  
Over 35 years exp  
All aspects of building work  
Extensions, loft conversions, roofing,  
driveways & landscaping.  
All work guaranteed  
Spring Offers! • Free Quotes  
07837 994465 / 01902 579592

### Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

**A BRILLCLEAN  
FOR YOUR  
CARPETS & SUITES**  
Special offers March/April  
OAP discounts.  
Call Steve on  
07496 922324

### Electrical Services

STEVE JONES ELECTRICAL  
Rewires/sockets/fuse boards etc.  
All domestic and commercial work.  
07786 858977/01902 846167.

### Fencing

**PORTWAY  
FENCING**  
SPECIAL OFFER  
10 Bays of quality fencing, concrete posts,  
gravel boards. £695  
Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted.  
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656  
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm  
Sat 8am - 12noon  
83 Portway Rd, W'bury  
DELIVERY  
AVAILABLE  
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

## CLASSIFIEDS FOR YOU!



"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representatives and would recommend them to anyone! They have done a very professional job with my website so I get online enquiries as well now."

Michael-  
Portway Fencing

For great business results call  
**01902 319 191**

**Classified Ads**  
Brought to you by Express & Star

## Gardening Services

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden. 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

## Gas Fitting

**READERS ARE ADVISED**  
To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered. It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

## House Clearances

A **ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021

**ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING CLEARED**  
FULL OR PART, GARAGES AND SHEDS RUBBISH REMOVED WASTE LICENCE  
**01384 486456 / 07711661135**

## Painters/Decorators

**LOVE 2 WALLPAPER**  
Reliable & Friendly, Professional Female Painters & Decorators  
Attention to detail, competitive prices.  
For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle.  
Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken  
**01384 287577 or 07812 484194**  
www.love-2-wallpaper.co.uk

## Removals

**CALL DEAN NOW:** For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209 / 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

**CALL IAN.** Man with a large van. No job too small, no distance too far. 07973 628534, 01902 891535.

**KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS AND HOUSE CLEARANCES**  
We move anything. Professional service, 45 years' experience, DFS approved and we take the stress away.  
Please call:  
**07966 281957**

**KT HOUSE REMOVALS**  
12 years experience.  
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS. LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.  
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:  
**07771 727119**

**Rubbish Removal**  
LET'S TALK RUBBISH No Skips Needed/Load/Remove any Waste. House Clearance. 07969 628382

## Roofing

**Semi Retired Roofer**  
ALL ROOF REPAIRS  
Felt and Rubber Flat Roofing  
All at reasonable prices  
**07546 158165**

## Skip Hire

**BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH!**  
No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR, Est 40 years, 01384 232359.

t.v. / home  
entertainment

## Service

**AERIAL AND TV SPECIALIST**  
Any TV Repairs. Digital aerials, sky, CCTV cameras. TV wall mounts and TV set ups. 07850 330251.

**4 Pets & Animals**

## Equestrian Corner

**ALL READERS** are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information, this is a legal requirement.

## Guns & Dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

## Pets Corner

**GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS**  
All neutered, inoculated and microchipped.  
Call 01902 291080 or visit  
www.gtwolverhampton.co.uk  
Greyhound Trust Wolverhampton  
@gtwolverhampton

**5 Business & Farming**

## Business Opportunities

**READERS** are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

**6 Property**

## Accommodation To Let

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

**BUNGALOW BUSHBURY.** 3 bed detached. Parking. As new. £695pcm. 01384 230222.

**DETACHED 3-bed Brierley Hill area.** £800pcm, no DSS or smokers, suit professional. 07730 354886

## Properties Wanted

**WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERY TIME!**  
**FAST 4 Your House CASH**



You agree the price, we buy the house...

- NO AGENTS FEES • COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- FREE SOLICITORS • ANY HOUSE, ANY CONDITION

**0800 999 999 6**  
**01384 500 500** **30 yrs**

www.black-countryhomes.co.uk \* subject to terms

**CASH NOW FOR YOUR HOUSE**  
**£25,000 CASH ADVANCE NOW (in 24hrs)**  
We can buy your house in 2 days  
\* Free Solicitors • No Fees • Any House • Any Condition  
Lines open 24 hours a day 7 days a week Terms apply  
**0800 389 6788 01902 628047**

**Yes! HOMEBUYERS**  
THE EASY WAY TO SELL YOUR HOUSE

**We Buy Houses For Cash**

Free Valuation? Yes! No Fees? Yes! Any Location? Yes!  
Fast Sale? Yes! Any House? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!  
Get your **FREE** instant cash offer today!



Call **01562 277 067**  
or text "Cash" to 66777 [yeshomebuyers.com](http://yeshomebuyers.com)

**We buy houses**  
Sell your house fast

- avoid repossession
  - behind on payments
  - job relocation
  - unwanted inheritance
- What more -  
we buy in any condition  
No estate agent fees  
We pay all your legal fees

**ACT NOW!**  
Contact us on:  
**07796 801219 / 07988 882090**

## Overseas Property

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

**7 Jobs**

## Finance & Accounting

**BLACKTHORNS ACCOUNTANTS**

We are looking to recruit

**ACCOUNTS AND TAXATION STAFF**

across all areas due to continued expansion.  
To take advantage of this exciting opportunity to join our busy accounting practice.

Please forward a CV to  
**mel.samms@theblackthorns.co.uk**

## Courses



**BIRMINGHAM: 5-6 May** (also 5-6 Sept.)  
**WOLVERHAMPTON: 25-26 July** (also 17-18 Nov.)  
**STOKE-ON-TRENT: 6-7 August** **TELFORD: 8-9 August**  
**Learn how to take blood**  
**TRAIN AS A PHLEBOTOMIST**  
**Introduction to Phlebotomy**  
**TWO DAY COURSE - NATIONALLY RECOGNISED**  
• Allied Healthcare Career Path  
• Accredited (advanced) qualification  
• No previous experience required  
For more info, or to book online: [www.geospace.com](http://www.geospace.com)

High demand in: Hospitals - GP Surgeries - Clinics - Private Sector - MOD - Research

## Full Time General

## MNA Media

## SENIOR REPORTERS

The Express and Star is looking for Senior Reporters to join the news team of one of Britain's biggest selling regional newspapers.

The successful candidates will be multi platform journalists working for our popular daily title and award-winning website.

Candidates should be enthusiastic, versatile, creative and prepared to go the extra mile to find the stories for our innovative and highly respected title. They must be accurate, multi-media skilled and be able to work calmly under pressure to meet tight deadlines.

The roles, which involve shift working including evenings and weekends, would suit someone who is qualified to at least NQJ accredited senior journalist or equivalent with a passion for news.

Anyone interested in applying should email

Editor's secretary Karen Baker at [karen.baker@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:karen.baker@expressandstar.co.uk). Please indicate in your application if you have a driving licence.

Closing date for applications: 6th April, 2018

Owners of Express & Star Ltd and Shropshire Newspapers Ltd

Express & Star STAR

**8**

## Motoring

## Cars Over £1500

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

**FORD FIESTA 1242CC** 2008, 20,400 miles, silver, 12 months MoT, service history, excellent condition. £2,995 ono 07793 293422.



**FORD FIESTA**  
2013.

23,000 miles.

Red.Electric windows. Air Con. alarm. Long MoT. Central locking. One owner from new. Stereo. CD. Lady owner.

£5,600.

**01902 790827.**

**HYUNDAI AMICA**  
2007, 42,000 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, air bag, air con, long MoT, auto, metallic paint, central locking, pas, alloys, stereo, CD, spots.  
£1,895 ono.  
**07979 143250.**



**MERCEDES CLK 200**  
2007, 149,200 miles, Obsidian Black, all leather interior, with all avantgard extras.  
£2,575  
**07469 316572.**



**NISSAN DUKE ACENTA**  
1.5 DCI SPORT  
2011.

Full MoT. Good tyres. Grey. Air con. Cd.

Clean.  
£5,300 ono.  
**01902 250546 / 07598 736154.**



**MINI COOPER HATCHBACK**

2007, 73,500 miles, chilli red, air con, alarm, long MoT, central locking, diesel, alloys.

£3,200 ono.

**07843 095070.**



**VAUXHALL CORSA ACTIVE**  
2009, 36,500 Miles, abs, electric mirrors, air con, long MoT, central locking, Alloys, 998cc, very good condition.  
**07879 403302**

## Cars Under £1500

**GOOD RUNNER**

**NISSAN MICRA**

01 plate, petrol, serviced, new battery, 1000cc, MoT till July, very reliable

Good condition.

£550 ono.

**07506 370873.**

## Classic Cars

**WANTED, CLASSIC Car.** Private cash buyer. Any condition, anything considered.  
**01630 652993 or 07773 462797.**

## Scrap Vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

**A BETTER PRICE** for scrap or damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale.  
**NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD**  
Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DY5 3JZ.

**spares & accessories**

## Clutches/Brakes/ Gearboxes

**A CLUTCH CHANGE MOBILE**  
Renault Scenic, Vauxhall Zafira, Renault Clio, Ford Focus & KA, and MANY MORE!!  
Ring for quotes  
**30 yrs experience**  
ALL AREAS COVERED  
Call Bob  
**01384 251328**  
**07972 169554**  
anytime

## Vehicles Wanted

**WANTED CLASSIC CAR**

Triumph, MG, Mercedes etc, running or not, anything considered.

Cash paid.

Telephone Ron

**07424 399776.**

**CROWN MOTORS** guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, buyer will call.

**alan reed cars**  
Used cars wanted for cash  
Top prices paid. HP settled.  
Buyer could call.  
**01562 711083 / 07831 245313**

**9 Local Information**

## Public Notices

## PUBLIC & LEGAL NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on **01902 319694** or email [marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk) (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

**10 Personals**

## General

**ARE YOU A LIVING WILL BENEFACTOR?**  
Are you alone with no family or heir and wondering what the future holds especially in old age and end of life care for you and possibly your pets?  
Call or text **07944 818083**

## Personal

**FREE TEXT MESSAGES** from women wanting discreet ADULT FUN! Call 0121 620 2445 for full details. Discretion assured!

**GENUINE, ATTRACTIVE, SLIM MAN**

54, caring, GSOH, WLTm genuine lady, 40-58 for Friendship, fun days and evenings out, cosy nights in.

Box Number P21106,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

**WIDOWER LATE 70's**  
House and car

WLTm a genuine lady with GSOH for companionship.

Box Number P21108,

Express and Star,

Queen Street,

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

## Sports Clubs

**SALTWELLS UNITED F.C.**  
We are looking for experienced players to join a very ambitious club to play in our Under 14's Team for Next Season.  
The Club will be based in Halesowen and will play in Stourbridge Youth League Next Season.  
Chairman and Welfare Officer has over 30 years in Youth Football, Manager has F.A. Level 2 and proven experience at Youth Level.  
This year taking a side to the top of Stourbridge Div 3 before Christmas.  
For more info call Martin on **07437 566109.**

Express &amp; Star

## DATING

**YOUR regional dating service**, run by the dating experts who have been established since 1990. **REAL people in YOUR region**

Try it..  
You'll  
love it!



Dates in **YOUR** region

Here's how to use your dating service ...

To **Place** your advert call: To **Place** your ad by text

**0844 381 5936**

follow the simple instructions. You will also get **£10 SMS CHAT CREDIT**

Simply text **REG** followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to **80098** FREE Standard Network rates apply.

**YOU** can now **Date ONLINE** or via your mobile just visit:

**http://dating.expressandstar.com**

To **Reply** to members call:

**0906 500 3955**

calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

Have the adverts 6-digit box no written down and do **key-it-in promptly** when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

To **Reply** by text:

**Text... REPLY26** (leave space) box number (leave space) and then enter your message & send to **80098** eg: **REPLY26 123456 hi get in touch...** then send to **80098** Successfully received messages cost £1.50 per SMS received (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

Been left a message?  
**Pickup** your replies on:

**0906 500 3957**

calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

**THE** biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet **you.. visit..** **http://dating.expressandstar.com**

## Single Women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

**PAT**, 70 year old lady, dark blonde hair, 5ft4, lives in the West Midlands, likes reading, meals out and walking. WLTm a N/S gentleman for days out and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430499

**JULIE**, 49yrs, recently divorced, own house etc. Seeks discreet man for daytime meetings while the kids are at school. Week days only. I will reply to all texts. **Text Only. Box: 4136824**

**SYLVIA**, 44yrs, Curvy busty lady with cute face. Naughty and open minded. Call to hear more, it easier to chat. Or you can text me if that's easier. You can be any age, just ready to chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430563**

**TABITHA**, Jamaican princess! 42yrs, large curvy figure, fabulous sense of humour and very open minded to fun. Hoping to chat to anyone with GSOH. Looks/age/status unimportant. **Text Only. Box: 4116607**

**JEAN**, attractive lady young 60s looking to meet younger man for special times. You won't be disappointed if you call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430561**

**YAZ**, Asian lady, 32yrs, very slim and pretty. Hoping to meet a strong minded, dominant, resourceful man. Mature please 45+ **Text Only. Box: 4177148**

**LINDA**, 69yrs, divorcee with own home, solvent. Loves life to the full. WLTm male for companionship, adult relationship. Call or txt me. Lets chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430559**

**SOPHIE**, 46yrs, attractive professional lady with time on her hands. Hoping to meet a nice gent of any age, text fun, flirt, possible meeting. **Text Only. Box: 4126579**

**VALERIE**, caring lady 70s GSOH hoping to meet a kind gent for outings, companionship, perhaps more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430557**

**SARAH** black lady, works as a nurse. 48yrs young, hoping to meet a younger man for some fun. Let me be your couger and dress me up in my uniform. **Text Only. Box: 4166063**

**MY name** is Sally, I'm a young 60yrs, attractive & blonde. I love going out to lunch, holidays, meals at home, the general things. Hoping to meet a nice gent 58+. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430555**

**MELANIE**, attractive lady, 38yrs, hoping to meet a nice chap, any age, for chats, non complicated times. Must have great shoo, looks unimportant. **Text Only. Box: 4037147**

**KEEP DATING SIMPLE!**

- NO PROFILES TO FILL OUT
- NO APPS TO DOWNLOAD
- NO CREDIT CARDS

JUST STRAIGHT FORWARD AND SIMPLE DATING. IT'S NEVER BEEN EASIER!

**TEXT MATCH TO 89990**

Remember: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

## Customer support

Call **0207 720 7130** Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm or email us at **support@jmediauk.co.uk**

**It's cheaper now to refresh your love life online!**  
**Unlimited use for just £19.95 per month**  
**VISIT: http://dating.expressandstar.com**

**ANNE** Marie, 30yrs loving lady, loves life, socialising, everything really. Hoping to meet a respectful loving older gent. **ACA Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430553**

**HELEN**, sophisticated, cultured lady, 30 something seeks mature man for life's pleasures. Discreet with no strings. **Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 430171**

**HEATHER**, shy sensitive brunette, 36yrs, looking for an experienced older gent. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430487**

**GILLY**, 39yrs, voluptuous sexy well groomed lady. Varied interests, loves mutual pampering. Looking to meet a man for mutual pleasures. Discretion assured & expected. **Call me. Tel: 0906 515 3027 Box: 430249**

**ATTRACTIVE** blonde lady, young 52 yrs, busty, open minded with a zest for life seeks discreet male, age/looks unimportant. All calls/bts answered. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430485**

**KAREN** 41yrs, long legged blonde lady seeks no strings fun with chap of any age. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box: 430251**

**JENNY**, 60s, bright blonde lady, looking for someone to share a happy, loving future with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430395**

**DISCREET** sensual and loving lady seeks man 30+ for daytime fun in her home. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 429849**

**SUZANNA**, 45, lonely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable very sexy man for lots of TLC and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430429**

**MARRIED** lady 39yrs wltm discreet gent for those intimate little extras. **Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box: 429851**

**ANGIE** 45, active attractive female looking to enjoy fun times and weekends away with available male who is also looking for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430349**

**ANNA**, 53yrs, attractive blonde lady, with lovely curves. Seeking man any age for no strings discreet fun. **Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box: 429721**

**KIRSTEN** 36, attractive, blonde and very bored, seeking open-minded discreet decent male for fun friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430233**

**MARIELLE**, 45yrs, curvy attractive lady, likes older men. I'm married so you must be discreet. Lets meet up, and make each other smile again. Call me and lets get to know each other. **Tel: 0906 515 3039 Box: 426853**

**JANE**, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715**

**LINDA**, 59yrs seeking no strings fun. Pls call and leave your number & I will call or txt you back. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430403**

**HARRIETT** 42yrs, blue eyed brunette with long legs and decent curves! Looking for a cheeky adventurous man for fun only. I live alone so can accommodate and can travel. Discretion assured. **ACA. Give me a try. Tel: 0906 515 3031 Box 426205**

**SAMANTHA**, 35yrs, attractive brunette with own business, seeks adventurous gent for casual relationship. **Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box 425979**

**CARMEL**, open minded naughty lady seeks a broad minded strict man to unleash her wilder side. Age/looks unimportant but no time wasters please. **Tel: 0906 515 3043 Box 426851**

**MERRY** Widow, young 70 yrs, lots of love to give to the right man. I'm very young looking, still blonde. Call me, lets chat/text, then if we click we can meet up. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430411**

**BEAUTIFUL** Black lady 43yrs. Hoping to meet a mature man for no strings regular fun, preferably daytime. Bernadette, sexy black lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430409**

**JULIE**, 41yrs, curvy white lady interested in meeting a Asian male 30+ for no strings fun. Hoping to hear from you soon. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430405**

**LYN** 43, divorced very lonely single mum, young looking, slim, attractive. WLTm similar male for companionship. Age/looks/Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 429909**

**NURSE** with a little extra time on her hands looking for genuine romantic man with GSOH to enjoy fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 429911**

**KIRSTEN** 36, attractive, blonde and very bored, seeking open-minded discreet decent male for fun friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430233**

**DOREEN** 42, blue eyes, red hair, petite build, varied interests looking for someone with a bit of get up and go who can make me laugh. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430177**

**JACKIE**, 39, blonde and busty, looking for discreet male 28-45 for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430073**

**DEBBIE** 29, looking for mature professional fun guy, 40-50 to spend good times with. Call me, you have nothing to lose. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430043**

**PATRICIA** 50s, solvent female, tactile, fun, likes to travel, seeks tall, easygoing mature male to enjoy all the good things in life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430019**

**FEMALE** 67, smoker, enjoys music, TV, meals out/ing, looking for male, 68-75, for friendship, maybe more. **Text only replies: Box no: 5877942**

**MALE**, 64, married, seeking a N/S lady, 45+, for discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430551**

**MALE**, mid 50s, N/S, semi retired, slim build, likes walking, holidays, occasional drinks, films, good chats, enjoys life, looking to meet a female, N/S, 50 plus, for friendship and going out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 429637**

**MALE**, 55, seeks female for friendship and going out to pubs and clubs with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430447**

**RETIRED** submissive male WLTm bi or straight dominant female, 63 plus, for relationship & fun weekends away. East Staffs **Text only replies to Box no: 4380218**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**AMANDA**, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287**

**ANGELA**, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

**ANNE**, mature lady, attractive petite blonde. Very active and outgoing, still enjoying life. Hoping to meet a kindly gent 60+, preferably black or Asian for socialising and life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430407**

**ANDREA**, 43, slim with long dark hair, blue eyes, seeks romantic man to share intimate moments in or out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430207**

**DOREEN** 42, blue eyes, red hair, petite build, varied interests looking for someone with a bit of get up and go who can make me laugh. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430177**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**THE NEW MATCHMAKING SERVICE FOR THE MATURE. FREE AND SINGLE!**

**40+ DATING**

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO FIND LOVE AND SINGLES NEAR YOU ARE LOOKING FOR FUN, ROMANCE & MAYBE MORE! IT'S FREE TO TRY, YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO LOSE! GET DATING NOW!**

**TEXT LOVE TO 63222**

**FIRST 3 TEXTS COMPLETELY FREE**

Find 3 ads free. All services provided FREE until 11.59pm. You must receive up to 4 messages for each service you send. Text 5155 to 63222 to test it first. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. Service is not computer generated. Messages are moderated for your safety and security. If arranging a meeting please choose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. Service provided by Net Users Ltd. Help: 0207 7207130 email: support@jmediauk.co.uk

## Single Men

**MALE**, 64, married, seeking a N/S lady, 45+, for discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430551**

**MALE**, mid 50s, N/S, semi retired, slim build, likes walking, holidays, occasional drinks, films, good chats, enjoys life, looking to meet a female, N/S, 50 plus, for friendship and going out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 429637**

**MALE**, 55, seeks female for friendship and going out to pubs and clubs with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430447**

**RETIRED** submissive male WLTm bi or straight dominant female, 63 plus, for relationship & fun weekends away. East Staffs **Text only replies to Box no: 4380218**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**AMANDA**, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287**

**ANGELA**, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

**ANNE**, mature lady, attractive petite blonde. Very active and outgoing, still enjoying life. Hoping to meet a kindly gent 60+, preferably black or Asian for socialising and life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430407**

**ANDREA**, 43, slim with long dark hair, blue eyes, seeks romantic man to share intimate moments in or out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430207**

**DOREEN** 42, blue eyes, red hair, petite build, varied interests looking for someone with a bit of get up and go who can make me laugh. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430177**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**AMANDA**, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287**

**ANGELA**, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

**ANNE**, mature lady, attractive petite blonde. Very active and outgoing, still enjoying life. Hoping to meet a kindly gent 60+, preferably black or Asian for socialising and life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430407**

**ANDREA**, 43, slim with long dark hair, blue eyes, seeks romantic man to share intimate moments in or out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430207**

**DOREEN** 42, blue eyes, red hair, petite build, varied interests looking for someone with a bit of get up and go who can make me laugh. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430177**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**AMANDA**, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287**

**ANGELA**, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

**ANNE**, mature lady, attractive petite blonde. Very active and outgoing, still enjoying life. Hoping to meet a kindly gent 60+, preferably black or Asian for socialising and life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430407**

**ANDREA**, 43, slim with long dark hair, blue eyes, seeks romantic man to share intimate moments in or out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430207**

**DOREEN** 42, blue eyes, red hair, petite build, varied interests looking for someone with a bit of get up and go who can make me laugh. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430177**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**AMANDA**, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287**

**ANGELA**, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

**ANNE**, mature lady, attractive petite blonde. Very active and outgoing, still enjoying life. Hoping to meet a kindly gent 60+, preferably black or Asian for socialising and life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430407**

**ANDREA**, 43, slim with long dark hair, blue eyes, seeks romantic man to share intimate moments in or out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430207**

**DOREEN** 42, blue eyes, red hair, petite build, varied interests looking for someone with a bit of get up and go who can make me laugh. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430177**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**AMANDA**, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287**

**ANGELA**, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

**ANNE**, mature lady, attractive petite blonde. Very active and outgoing, still enjoying life. Hoping to meet a kindly gent 60+, preferably black or Asian for socialising and life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430407**

**ANDREA**, 43, slim with long dark hair, blue eyes, seeks romantic man to share intimate moments in or out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430207**

**DOREEN** 42, blue eyes, red hair, petite build, varied interests looking for someone with a bit of get up and go who can make me laugh. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430177**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**AMANDA**, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287**

**ANGELA**, 48yrs, seeks no strings casual fun. I have my own house, car and am solvent. I'm busty with a firm figure. You must be open minded, age/status unimportant. **Tel: 0906 515 3015 Box: 427633**

**ANNE**, mature lady, attractive petite blonde. Very active and outgoing, still enjoying life. Hoping to meet a kindly gent 60+, preferably black or Asian for socialising and life's pleasures. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430407**

**ANDREA**, 43, slim with long dark hair, blue eyes, seeks romantic man to share intimate moments in or out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430207**

**DOREEN** 42, blue eyes, red hair, petite build, varied interests looking for someone with a bit of get up and go who can make me laugh. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 430177**

**MALE**, 48, 6ft, married, WLTm a lady any age/status for discreet daytime fun. **Text only replies: 4205286**

**AMANDA**, 36yrs, attractive lady. Solvent and well educated and spoken. Feminine figure with large breasts. Hoping to meet a broad-minded gent, any age for discreet relationship. I don't mind if you are married or single. **ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box: 429287**



First team manager Wayne Spicer



Black Country Rangers players celebrate a goal



The club's new badge



Black Country Fusion will come under the Black Country FC banner

# Growing team flies the flag for Black Country

**BLACK Country Rangers are on a mission to become a major player on the non-league scene.**

While the action on the pitch may have been hampered by the recent wintry conditions, there has been plenty going on off the field at the ambitious West Midlands League club.

Rangers run one side at the moment, in the Premier Division, but are now expanding.

They have agreed a merger with Sunday League side Black Country Fusion which will result in five adults teams – including a ladies' side – while the club are in the process of setting up an academy.

For good measure, to complete the re-brand job, they have a new badge and will be known as Black Country Football Club.

Black Country Rangers will still exist as the first team but will be under the umbrella of BCFC.

First team boss Wayne Spicer provided the initial spark for the ambitious plans.

Spicer joined the club in a coaching capacity at the start of the season before taking on the assistant manager's role and then moving into the hot-seat when former boss Lewis Jones stepped down.

## Challenge

He quickly identified the need to expand and now the club's hard-working board have taken up the challenge.

"I just felt that if we want to be sustainable and develop things in the future then we need to be a club," said Spicer.

"At the minute we are not a club we are just one team, Black Country Rangers.

"So we have decided to put a board together and add other teams to create one club.

"We are merging with Black Country Fusion and we are starting an academy for six to 12-year-olds and looking at adding other youth teams.

"We are looking to get other coaches on board and are going to be holding trials for different age groups.

"If we are going to be an aspiring semi-professional team that wants to go as high as possible, then we need youngsters coming through.

"We realise there is a massive gap between Sunday

## SPORTING FEATURE

By Liam Keen

***"This is something I was keen to drive forward and credit to everyone at the club because they have been working hard to get things off the ground."***

league and the level we play at, what we have to try to do is bridge that gap.

"Hopefully we can set up a reserve side in the future to help bridge the gap to the first team but top of the hit list at the moment is to get the academy up and running.

"This is something I was keen to drive forward and credit to everyone at the club because they have been working hard to get things off the ground.

"Pete Whitehouse, who is the head of the academy, has been working really hard and the chairman, Paul Garner, has been behind everything and really supportive.

"The merger with Black Country Fusion has resulted in Skye Stewart coming on board and she has been absolutely fantastic in all aspects.

"It will help build a more sustainable club instead of one team, as well as having 10 brains working on it instead of one."

Spicer added: "I'm very confident of how the merger will go, our main goal is to become one of the biggest clubs in the Black Country, playing football the right way."

Joining forces with Fusion has resulted in Skye Stewart become vice-chair of the club.

And Stewart is aiming high. She said: "This benefits both clubs, we're being ambitious and the merger can drive us forward instead of plodding along where

we are. We want to stamp our mark on the Black Country.

"We want the teams to do well, become well known in the region and grow a future for children in the Black Country. It'll help with our sustainability," she added. "It's the start of our future and we want to take it as far as we can and be the next big club in the Black Country."

Chairman Garner is excited at what the future holds. He said: "This is something as a club we have been looking to do for a long time, we just needed to make sure we had the right people to meet this new challenge head on.

"Non-league football is about people sharing a vision and common goal and we feel bringing Skye on board, who has so much passion for the game and desire to improve on something successful she has already built, will only propel the club to greater heights.

"We are excited about the future and any new challenges that may lie ahead."

While the future is looking bright for the club, the present is not too shabby either.

## Promotion

Spicer has wasted little time making his mark in only his second taste of management, having led West Bromwich United to promotion from Division Two and League Cup glory last season.

Rangers are unbeaten in 13 games since he took on the lead role and their eye-catching brand of football has even been featured on Soccer AM, who showed a clip of a stunning team goal scored by Kieron Clarke against Malvern Town.

A disappointing start to the season put paid to any realistic chance of challenging for the title, but a top four finish is still a possibility.

"We didn't have a great start but we have had a strong middle," said Spicer.

"The best thing for me is that the boys have put their faith in me and bought into my philosophy. Credit to the boys for that.

"We have set high standards and Graham Ward (assistant boss) has added his knowledge and experience to the mix which will only help push us forward as a club."

## Boxer in polished debut performance

DEBUTANT Damien Kiwior caught the eye on fight night at Walsall Town Hall. Alex Florence, Tivdiale's Ryan 'Stewart' Davies and Danny Ball of Kingswinford were all victorious on the 'Class of 2018' card.

Despite a number of cancellations, organisers BCB Promotions made sure the show went on. Ledbury's Florence, a 21-year-old super lightweight, put Czech Republic's Jan Korec to the sword early, referee Kevin Parker bringing proceedings to an end in the first round.

Davies recorded a first career stoppage, in four rounds over Birmingham's Myles Vale, while super welterweight Ball recorded a 39-38 victory after being taken the distance by seasoned Bolton fighter Chris Jenkinson.

Topping the bill was Poland's decorated amateur Kiwior, making his eagerly-awaited professional debut. He looked comfortable throughout his four round contest with Bulgaria's Anatoli Lyubenov and recorded a 40-36 victory. A moment's reflection, and a collection, was held in memory of Reagan Asbury who died outside the venue in October.

## Princess Royal unveils uni's fitness facility

A NEW Sport & Fitness Club at the University of Birmingham has been officially unveiled by HRH the Princess Royal. She unveiled a plaque and delivered a speech as part of a formal opening ceremony.

The University of Birmingham's Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir David Eastwood welcomed the Princess to the new facility before she was introduced to Chancellor Lord Bilimoria of Chelsea, Pro-Chancellor Ed Smith, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Myra Nimmo and Director of Sport Zena Wooldridge OBE.

The royal visitor met students, athletes and staff and was given a tour of the facility, led by Zena Wooldridge, with visits to the 50m swimming pool, fitness studios, squash courts, the indoor multi-purpose arena and sports hall, climbing wall and performance centre.

The Sport & Fitness Club opened its doors to students, staff and the community in May 2017, providing a new gateway to the University's iconic Edgbaston campus.

## Gavin gutted as plug pulled on title bout

BIRMINGHAM boxer Frankie Gavin's hopes of a world title fight later this month have been left on the canvas by the loss of a major sponsor.

The show at the Genting Arena continues with a strong line-up including four title bouts. But Gavin said he was devastated at losing the chance to fight for a world title. He was due to face African Bethuel Ushona for the vacant IBO Welterweight World title on Saturday March 24.

But the team behind his big night – billed as 'Now or Never' – have been forced to pull the headline fight after a major sponsor failed to materialise. The show goes on with a full undercard promoted by Black Country Boxing.

Gavin said: "I am absolutely gutted. To have the opportunity to win a belt and decent purse snatched away from me has left me devastated."

Kevin Baker, of BWI Promotions who were hosting Gavin's fight, said the team was hopeful of finding another option for him in the spring. Tickets are still available at theticketfactory.com but anyone who has bought a ticket for Gavin can obtain a refund by contacting their point of purchase.



SPORTS DESK 01902 319531

CHRON.SPORT@EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK

## Honours are shared in last-ball tie

HAGLEY and Chaddesley Corbett shared the spoils in the WCB Indoor League North division.

Hagley's openers Mike Stead and Lee Nightingale both scored well and soon retired. Paul Morgan joined the innings and also scored well but with his run-out the rate dropped until a cameo from Dan Giles pushed the score to 124-4.

Chaddesley captain Bilal was in the mood to chase down the total but they lost their first wicket at 22 in the second over. Shane joined the captain, keeping the momentum going, although a rare failure of Waqas run out for 11, stemmed the flow. Into the last over Mohsin and the returning Bilal required 15. Mohsin was bowled by Ed Rhodes on the penultimate ball with two runs required for the win, then Bilal (53) failed to make the right contact on the final ball and was run-out with the scores level.

In the other game Enville beat Quatt by 67 runs. Batting first, Enville openers set about some friendly bowling which generously included numerous wides and no-balls. The Enville openers soon retired (Jono Howells 30 no and Matt Branch 41 no) and James Willis 25 no continued scoring quickly and Enville reached their highest total this season at 151-3.

Quatt fielded an inexperienced batting line-up and were soon in trouble losing two wickets for 17 within two overs. Ryan Wheldon and Alex Biddle put some respectability to the total but with the dismissal of Wheldon the game was all but lost. Quatt struggled to 84-5.

## Ex-Baggie Hughes unable to inspire Yeltz on his debut

**Ashton Utd 3 Halesowen 0**  
FORMER Baggies striker Lee Hughes made his debut for Halesowen following his signing in the week from Worcester City - but the 41-year-old but couldn't inspire his new team-mates to victory.

The ex-Albion hitman had a chance to put the Yeltz in front on only six minutes on Saturday when he was through on goal, but home keeper David Carnell saved with his legs.

That turned out to be Halesowen's best chance of this Evo-Stik Premier fixture, and they went behind on 21 minutes when Daniel Platt saved from Deane Smalley but the Ashton forward netted the rebound.

Platt made a number of good saves to keep the visitors in it up until half-time.

Halesowen had a penalty shout on 65 minutes when Lee Knight appeared to be pulled down in the box but the referee waved play on.

On 78 minutes, John Mooney cut through the defence and shot home, and John Pritchard dispatched a late penalty to make it 3-0, leaving Yeltz in the bottom two.

## On the oche for hospice fundraiser



A fan with Daryl Gurney

A CHARITY darts exhibition raised £5,500 for Mary Stevens Hospice in Stourbridge.

Daryl 'Super Chin' Gurney, Steve 'Bronzed Adonis' Beaton, Jamie 'Cabby' Caven and Alan 'Chuck' Norris took part in the four-man charity tournament at the Parkes Hall Social Club in Dudley, raising money and awareness for the work of the

Hagley Road Hospice as well as The Cystic Fibrosis Trust, which received a further £1,200.

Tickets sold out well in advance with more than 200 darts fans seeing Beaton beat Gurney in the final.

The event was also supported by professional caller, Kirk 'The Kirkulator' Bevins, and walk-on girls Daniella Harper and Char-

lotte Wood, who donated their time to the evening.

It was the second Tungsten Hold 'Em darts event in support of the Hospice. The inaugural event brought in £4,000.

Hospice spokesman Dan Malin said: "The work that Sean and his organising team have put into this event has been just remarkable."



Meeting Steve Beaton

## Trophy final then league champions

FRESH from beating Birmingham University to reach the final of the Terrill Trophy, Stourbridge Chess Club faced Kidderminster 'B' in division 2 of the Wolverhampton League with promotion at stake.

The club knew that a win would make Stourbridge division champions and a draw would guarantee promotion.

With a noticeable grading advantage on most boards Stourbridge should have won easily but it was much more closely fought than expected. In the end Stourbridge won 3½-2½ with draws for Nic Fallowfield, Greg Dyett, Dave Scriven, Paul Sharratt and Ron Evans and a win for Julie Wilson.

The second team did not fare so well but are in no danger of relegation. They played a strong Halesowen team in Worcestershire division 2 and lost 4-1 with draws for Tony Shaw and Jeremy Humphries. They are now equal top of the division with Halesowen on won four drawn two lost one.

The seconds played away at Redditch in Birmingham division 4. Stourbridge were missing several key players so took a weakened team. Hossam Aboushady won with draws for Eric Horwill and Jeremy Humphries but Stourbridge lost the bottom three boards to lose 4-2. They remain mid-table.

Anyone who is interested in joining Stourbridge chess club should contact Dave Scriven on 01384 423642 or visit [www.stourbridgechess.f9.co.uk](http://www.stourbridgechess.f9.co.uk) for more information.

## Sale 29 Stourbridge 0 DESPITE a heroic effort, Stourbridge came away with nothing but a sense of pride from their visit to Sale last weekend.

With six games to play - four of them at home - Stourbridge now lie in third place, 10 points behind the leaders.

On Saturday, a red card early on ruined both the afternoon and any meaningful chance of an even contest.

Sale started well and held a 7-0 advantage with two minutes on the clock after Joe Kelly bulldozed over and No10 Chris Johnson added the extras. But five minutes later Stourbridge were rocked with a red card and faced playing the rest of the game with 14 men.

An off-the-ball incident led to referee Ben Davis sending off Stourbridge captain Sam Pailor.

The Sale cameraman intervened and advised the touch judge that the wrong player had been identified. The ensuing discussion caused Davis to rescind Pailor's card and show it instead to Chad Thorne.

They were down to 13 when Stef Thorp needed treatment on a nasty gash on his head. The 10 minutes of treatment meant uncontested scrums and Stour had to sacrifice a player, in accordance with RFU regulations. In this time, Sale landed 10 points through a Johnson penalty and the conversion of No 8 Jake Barron's try.

The hosts' next score came on the half hour mark as Adam Aigbokhae crashed over but Johnson's conversion attempt hit the right-hand upright. Jack Spencer had to leave the pitch following his third stoppage for injury. Referee Davis requested his departure but this meant the rest of the game had to be played with 13 just men and uncontested scrums for the second time.

Right on the whistle, Sale scored their bonus try, through Chris Mayor, and Johnson converted.

On Saturday, Stourbridge entertain Sheffield Tigers, kick-off 1pm with England v Ireland on the big screen after.

## Volley of success for school



Members of the successful volleyball side at Redhill School

A STOURBRIDGE school has proved a smash hit on the volleyball court yet again.

Redhill's girls and boys under-15s swept their rivals aside on their way to glory in the West Midlands Championship.

To add to their success, six youngsters from the school have earned international recognition.

Tyler White retained his place in the England under-17 cadet squad while Carla Hulme

was also reselected from a pool of 90 in her trials. However, there are four newcomers to the England set-up after Callum Parsons, Yan Naydenov, Daniel Howe and Sebastian Smith netted call-ups.

Last year Redhill provided four players - James Ledbury, Andrew Pearson, David Hodson and Harrison Martin-Lawes - for England under-17s. They went on to figure in the Nevza Championships in Denmark.

## Rugby sides on their travels for Plate ties

DK, Stourbridge and Old Halesonians all have away ties in the quarter-final of the North Midlands Colts Plate.

The competition is for teams beaten early in the North Midlands Colts Cup. Old Hales, beaten 31-13 in the last eight of the Cup by holders Hereford, will travel to the winners of Sunday's preliminary round tie between Telford Hornets and Newport. Stourbridge, who lost 50-0 to Luctonians in the Cup quarters, are at Camp Hill, while DK are at Malvern. Ledbury v Worcester is the other tie.

The Cup semi-finals are Hereford v Birmingham & Solihull, Luctonians v Bromsgrove.

\*\*\*  
The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketterley, Telford.  
Thursday, March 15, 2018

NEWSPAPERS  
SUPPORT  
RECYCLING  
The recycled  
content  
of newspapers in  
2015 was 62.8%



# Domino's®

# 01384 374666

Stourbridge Industrial Estate,  
Mill Race Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1JN

Opening Hours: 11am to 11pm Sunday-Thursday  
11am to Midnight Friday and Saturday